Sherman Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
January 14, 2019

Present:
Fran Frattini-Chairman
Kris Fazzone
John Wrenn-Director
T. J. Fazzone (arrived at 7:40pm)
Rachel Booth
Denise DePalma
Kris Fazzone

Absent:
Karen Kellett
Stan Greenbaum

Guests: There were no guests

Call to order:
Chairman Fran Frattini called the January 14, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:25pm.

Mrs. Frattini welcomed new Commission member Rachel Booth.

Pavilion and Facilities Use:
There were no applications that needed to come before the Commission.

Minutes from December 10, 2018 Regular Meeting:
A motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2018 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting was made by Kris Fazzone, seconded by Rachel Booth and voted with all in favor.
Minutes accepted as written.
Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Correspondence:

1. Fran Frattini reported that she had sent former Commission member William Butts a note to thank him for his service while on the Commission.

2. Mrs. Frattini sent a letter to FirstLight outlining the proposed installation of a rowboat rack, benches at the moorings and a corn hole game and sand reclamation at the Town Park as well as reinstalling the benches at the tennis courts. FirstLight subsequently issued a Letter of Filing Consent on these proposed projects. Applications for these projects were also filed with Zoning and Inland/Wetlands.

3. Mrs. Frattini noted that she had sent a letter to James Day confirming the change in his proposed Eagle Scout project from a bocce court to a corn hole game. She also sent him the related drawings she submitted with the permit applications. Fran Frattini noted that with all Eagle Scout projects it is the responsibility of the beneficiary of the Eagle Scout project to apply for required permits and/or necessary permission.

4. Kris Fazzone had received a call from a resident who asked about karate classes this winter. John Wrenn noted that no one had showed up when it was offered and perhaps it would be offered again in September when school is back in session.

5. Denise DePalma noted she had been asked by residents for a self-defense class, especially for teens and young adults going off to college and other adults. A weeknight class in the multipurpose room at the Sherman School was discussed. Instructor June Fagan was suggested as a possibility since she had taught the same class several years ago and it was very well received. Mr. Wrenn will get in touch with Ms. Fagan.

Maintenance and Repair:

1. John Wrenn reported that there is a new lock installed on storage area between the bathrooms at the Town Park pavilion. Mr. Wrenn noted that the cove near the Town Park had iced over and all the docks went down. He is hopeful that the weeds will be killed by the exposure to the cold.

2. It was noted that Munch Meadows had been mowed since the last Commission meeting. There was a discussion about reinstalling split rail fence, including possible costs and inclusion in the coming budget proposal which is due by February 14, 2019 which is two days after the next Park and Recreation Commission meeting. Mr. Wrenn will research estimates for the fence.

3. FirstLight had stated that there could be no dredging at the beach at the Town Park but recommended raking problem areas when the water level goes down. It was noted that currently the water level was down and the possibility of the Town Crew doing the raking was discussed.

Facility Report:

a. John Wrenn reported that there are still several canoes/kayaks in the racks at the Town Park and they should have been removed in November. He will call the owners.
b. The tennis courts are winterized.

c. The vandalism at Volunteer Park has not been repaired as the ground is too frozen to fix the ruts made by a vehicle doing wheelies on the field. The repair will need to wait until spring when the ground thaws.

d. There was a discussion about possibilities for new Park and Recreation office and program space, including the closed Kindergarten wing at Sherman School, which would give a separate entrance to the office. Mr. Wrenn detailed the advantages of being within the school facility. School security issues were discussed.

Old Business/New Business:

a. Permits have been filed and the appropriate letters sent for James Day's Eagle Scout project.

b. The 2019/2020 budget was discussed. The need for the inclusion of a request for a maintenance person was discussed. It was noted that Don Lowe had expressed interest in exploring the creation of a new position similar to the former Facilities Manager position with a new job title. The title “Maintenance Coordinator” had been suggested. John Wrenn distributed copies of a job description that had been used in the past. It was noted that a Park and Recreation maintenance person should work April 1 through November 1, report to Park and Recreation Director, have use of a small truck and could possibly be utilized with the other town agencies the remainder of the year to create a full time position.

c. Compliments were given to Fran O'Rourke for a fine job on the clean up and staining of the pavilion at the Town Park. It was noted that the bathroom facility at Veterans Field needs to be cleaned, power washed and stained also and will be included in the proposed budget.

d. John Wrenn asked that any requests for items to go into 2019/2020 budget proposal be given to him within the next two weeks.

e. It was noted that Bob Ostrosky might come to the next Park and Recreation Commission meeting to discuss possible new locations for the Park and Recreation office. There was a discussion that included using half of the closed kindergarten wing, allowing a separate entrance as well as solving Saturday morning security issues.

f. The possibility of installing railway tie steps from the parking lot at Veterans Field up to the parking lot behind the school was discussed yet again

g. Including new soccer nets for Colonial Field in the budget was discussed.

h. Mr. Wrenn had gotten a bid from Sylvestri Fencing for a fence along the driveway and right field at Volunteer Park to prevent vehicles from driving on the field. The bid was for 324 feet of 4-foot high chain link fencing at a cost of about $8,000. It was noted that posts could possibly be installed to cover the same length of property, serve the same purpose for a cost approximately $3,000 and would mirror the existing posts at Town Park parking lot. Mr. Wrenn stated that posts would not work well on a Little League field, as the young players are likely to eventually run into them.

i. A dog park was discussed.
j. Mr. Wrenn suggested including the purchase of an outdoor stair climber in the 2019/2020 budget, possibly to be installed at Veterans Field near playground. There was a discussion, Mr. Wrenn will get price before the budget is prepared.

**Director’s Report:**

1. Basketball season is going well and is almost done.

2. Karate did not run and will possibly be offered in September.

3. Skiing is off to a good start since there has been snow making for a while.

4. Open gyms are going well with youth basketball on Monday, over-30 basketball on Tuesday, volleyball on Wednesday and over-18 basketball on Thursday.

5. ASP is doing fine, with about 5 or 6 children per day. The supervisors, Tara Schaeffer and Christine Celio are doing a good job. The supervisors split the week with just one working each day.

*Kris Fazzone made a motion to adjourn the January 14, 2019 Park and Recreation Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Denise DePalma and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kellett
Park and Recreation Secretary

Mary Jo Dix
Recording Secretary

r/b/ff

The next Park and Recreation Commission meeting will be Monday, February 11, 2019

*These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission*