Sherman Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
February 11, 2019

Present:
Fran Frattini-Chairman
Kris Fazzone
Rachel Booth
T.J. Fazzone
John Wrenn-Director

Absent:
Karen Kellett
Denise DePalma
Stan Greenbaum

Guests: Julia Grazia, Mrs. Grazia

Call to order:
Chairman Fran Frattini called the February 11, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:20pm.

Minutes from January 14, 2019 Regular Meeting:
Fran Frattini noted a correction in the current meeting's agenda where the January 2019 meeting minutes were noted; the day was listed incorrectly as the 19th and should have been the 14th.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2019 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting was made by T.J. Fazzone, seconded by Kris Fazzone and voted with all in favor.

Public Comment:
Julia Grazia requested the use of Veterans Field for a Dyslexia Fun Walk as part of her senior project at Shepaug High School. The date requested was Saturday May 4 from 8am to noon and would include set-up and clean up and a 6-lap/3-mile walk to raise awareness for dyslexia. There will be a donation of $10 per participant with all donations going to Decoding Dyslexia of Connecticut.
A motion to approve the request by Julia Grazia for use of Veterans Field on May 4, 2019 from 8am to noon for a Dyslexia Fun Walk was made by Kris Fazzone and seconded by T.J. Fazzone and voted with all in favor.

Facilities Use:
The there were no applications for facilities.

Correspondence:
The there was no correspondence.

Maintenance and Repairs:
The there was no maintenance and repairs to report.

Facilities:
The there was a discussion about damage done to a porta-pot after a Boy Scout event at Volunteer Park. The Scouts had rented the porta-pot that was due to be picked up after the event. Pick-up was delayed by a storm and the damage appeared to have been done during that time lapse. Although Park and Recreation was notified about the cost of repairs, the Boy Scouts will handle the incident.

New Business/Old Business:
1. Fran Frattini had gotten approval on the permit to Inland Wetlands for James Day's Eagle Scout project. It was noted that James will advise Ron Cooper with start date information.
2. Approval had also been received from Inland Wetlands for the new benches at the Town Park.
3. Approval was not given for the proposed sand reclamation project at the Town Park beach. There was a discussion, including possible options for weed control and the possibility of resubmitting the request at a later date.
4. The Lake Patrol had contacted Park and Recreation inquiring about offering another safe boating class this year. There was a discussion, including that the course is typically given in 2 parts – a Friday evening and Saturday morning – and the limit is 40 participants per class. It was noted that there is a course being offered in New Fairfield in March and perhaps May would be an appropriate time for a Sherman class. Mrs. Frattini will contact the instructor and try to set up the class.

Director's Report:
John Wrenn shared the following information:
1. John Wrenn described two new classes for the summer, Yoga for Adults on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00pm – 8:00pm at the Sherman School and Paddleboard
Yoga for Adults at the Town park from 6:30pm – 7:30pm with two sessions, June 17 – July 8 and July 15 – August 5. Both classes would be taught by Erica Carlson. There was a discussion.

Mr. Wrenn also described U.S. Sports Institute's proposal for a Multi-sports Camp for the coming summer. This could possibly replace the soccer and baseball camps that had been previously offered. Multi-sports Camp might have a broader appeal with five or six different sports for ages 5 – 14, either offered after the regular camps conclude or within the regular camp times. Possible Saturday Sports Squirts Camps were discussed that may be offered for 2-3 year-olds and 4-5 year-olds. Locations were discussed.

A motion to approve the new programs proposed by John Wrenn was made by Kris Fazzone and seconded by Rachel Booth and voted with all in favor.

2. John Wrenn had been asked to sponsor a wheel chair basketball practice at the Sherman School gym for Ryan Fitzpatrick at 3:30pm for two days per week. There was a discussion.

A motion to approve the request for a wheelchair basketball practice in the Sherman School gym was made by Kris Fazzone and seconded by T.J. Fazzone and voted with all in favor.

3. The checking account report as well as an income/expense report was distributed and discussed,

4. Youth basketball was well attended and the 9-week program is coming to a conclusion.

5. Skiing program did well and just have a few make-up sessions to go.

6. ASP is averaging about 4 children per day and is still feasible with a little support from the department's account.

2019-2020 Budget Discussion:
The proposed 2019-2020 budget was distributed and discussed. It was noted that Don Lowe had hoped to be in attendance to discuss a facilities manager position but he had not arrived. There was a discussion about a possible Park and Recreation maintenance staff that would work from April 1 through November 30 and then change to working for the Town Crew to create one full time, year round position. Possible benefits, salary and funding were discussed. It was noted that this maintenance position was completely separate from a facilities manager position.

Proposed new changes to the Park and Recreation operating budget that were discussed in detail included the following:

1. Hourly rates for lifeguards and Swim Instructors to be increased by $1.50, for Waterfront Director by $1.00 and beach guards and maintenance staff by $.30 per hour. This is an effort to attract and retain more qualified personnel. It was noted that the other
Park and Recreation positions were proposed to receive the typical increases seen in previous budgets.

2. Added to the proposed budget is a new position Maintenance Worker at $21,000 representing $15/hour.

3. An additional $2,000 was proposed for the Summer Concert Series. Current concerts are well attended and there have been requests for more.

The overall total in the expenditures section of the proposed 2019-2020 budget would be $142,074, up from estimated $112,402 for the current year's budget. The proposal includes the $21,000 for the new Maintenance Worker position.

4. On the income section, it was proposed that the boat mooring slip fee be increased from $900 to a fee not to exceed $1,000 with or without the surcharge that has been imposed by the BOS for years. The surcharge was supposed to be earmarked for boat mooring repairs. It was noted that there will be a request made to the BOS to eliminate the surcharge. It was further noted that even at $1,000 the Sherman boat mooring was one of the lowest rates on Lake Candlewood. In addition, it was noted that if there is still a slip available after May 15 then it was possible for a person renting in Sherman to apply for that slip. The ordinance governing the rental of boat slips was discussed including that renters must own real property in the town and therefore appear on the grand list.

Capital Improvements were discussed. Capital non-recurring vs. capital improvements was discussed. Also discussed were replacing split rail fence at Munch meadows, power washing, and staining work on bath house at Veterans Field and new ladder for swim dock. Each of these items could potentially be handled through regular operating budget either in the current budget year or next. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to include the following in the Capital Improvements portion of the proposed 2019-2020 budget:

1. Netting with poles for Colonial Park at $1,000
2. Outdoor Stair Climber Exercise Machine to be located near playground at Veterans Field at $5,800.
3. Chain link fence around Softball Filed at Volunteer Park for $8,000.
4. Dog Park fence for $15,000.
5. Steps from Veterans Field up to the school for $9,000.

Including funds for the eventual replacement of the boardwalk and wall at the Town Park boat docks in Capital non-recurring budget was discussed. It was noted that a long range plan of $45,000 per year set aside for about 5 years would be required to encumber enough funds for this project.

A motion to accept the proposed expenditures of $142,074 for the 2019-2020 proposed Park and Recreation budget was made by T.J. Fazzone and seconded by Kris Fazzone and voted with all in favor.

A motion to accept the proposed increase in boat mooring fee not to exceed $1,000 with or without the $50 surcharge in the 2109-2020 proposed Park and Recreation budget
was made by Rachel Booth and seconded by Kris Fazzone and voted with all in favor.

It was noted that the proposed anticipated income for the 2019-2020 Park and Recreation budget would be $91,500.

A motion to accept the proposed Capital Improvements for $40,200 for the 2019-2020 proposed Park and Recreation budget was made by Kris Fazzone and seconded by Rachel Booth and voted with all in favor.

A motion to accept adjustments in the salary schedule for Waterfront Director to $15/hour and a $1.50 hourly rate increase for Life Guards and Swim Instructor for the 2019-2020 proposed Park and Recreation budget was made by T.J Fazzone and seconded by Rachel Booth and voted with all in favor.

A motion to recommend a long-range plan for an additional $45,000 for boardwalk and wall in a capital non-recurring budget for the 2019-2020 proposed Park and Recreation budget was made by Kris Fazzone and seconded by T.J. Fazzone and voted with all in favor.

It was noted that the budget hearings were on Saturday, February 23, starting at 9:00am and that Park and Recreation was second on the agenda following the BOE.

Kris Fazzone made a motion to adjourn the February 11, 2019 Park and Recreation Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by T.J. Fazzone and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

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, March 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