Sherman Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
October 5, 2020

Present:  Absent:
Fran Frattini-Chairman  Karen Kellett
John Wrenn-Director
T.J. Fazzone
Kris Fazzone
Rachel Booth
Stan Greenbaum (joined via phone)

Guests: Bill Buts, Samantha Butts, Walker Butts and
Neil Stalter of CLA (electronically)

Call to order:
Chairman Fran Frattini called the October 5, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and
Recreation Commission to order at 7:21pm.

Minutes from September 14, 2020 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Meeting:
A motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 Sherman Park and Recreation
Commission meeting was made by Kris Fazzone, seconded by T.J. Fazzone, and voted with all in
favor. Minutes accepted as written.

Pavilion and Facilities Applications:
Mr. Wrenn noted that Dan Havens, representing Boy Scout Troop 48, requested use of Volunteer
Park on October 17 and 18 for a Boy Scout Campout and Recruitment event. Cub Scouts – Pack
84 also requested Volunteer Park on October 17 from 10am-2pm for a recruitment event

*Kris Fazzone made a motion to accept the applications of Troop 48 and Pack 84 for Volunteer
Park for both the Boy Scout and Cub Scout events on October 17 and 18. Rachel Booth seconded
and voted with all in favor.

Walker Butts, Life Scout of BSA – Sherman Troop 48 presented a proposal for an Eagle Scout
project. The proposed project would include the installation of an invasive species disposal
station at the Sherman Town Park near the boat launch. He advised that the project would be
educational to boaters, good for the environment and would have a very small footprint in the park, being only 3 or 4 foot square. There was a discussion during which Walker shared information, photos and diagrams about the disposal station with the Commission. Possible locations, maintenance, benefits of the station, permits required and installation methods were discussed. It was noted that the Candlewood Lake Authority would be the beneficiary of Walker’s Eagle Scout project, Mrs. Frattini read a letter from the CLA requesting permission for this project at the Sherman Town Park and noted that the CLA board would need to vote on the proposal. As beneficiary the CLA is responsible for all required permits and approvals. The Park and Recreation Commission needed to be consulted due to the location at the Town Park. It was noted that Park and Recreation approval would be contingent upon CLA’s approval of the project. The timeline for the project was for completion in spring 2021.

Kris Fazzone made a motion to accept Walker Butts’ Eagle Scout project proposal to build an invasive species disposal station at the Town Park boat launch, conditional upon the CLA Board approving the project. Rachel Booth seconded and the motion was voted with all in favor. Motion passed and Walker was wished well with this project on his trail to Eagle.

Bill, Samantha and Walker Butts as well as Neil Stalter left the meeting.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence:
There was no correspondence other than Walker Butts’ request concerning his proposed Eagle project.

Maintenance and Repairs/Facilities Reports:
- Boat dock slip registration went well in September with no need for a lottery and a few open slips remain. Docks are still in the water.  
- Tennis courts are in good shape. Stan Greenbaum noted that it was just the fourth season on the newly resurfaced courts and that in the seventh year it would be necessary to put a new acrylic surface for the courts in the budget for the eighth year, the 2023-24 fiscal year. 
- Colonial and Veterans Fields look good but it was noted that on Volunteer Park upper area there seemed to have been a fire ring built and used recently. Mr. Wrenn will speak to Donny Borkowski about what can be done.
- A new bench at the basketball courts on Veterans Field was discussed. The old bench was already on the original permit issued by First Light so no new permit would be needed to replace it. However First Light would need to be notified. It was noted that a 12-foot bench would likely be installed this fall.
- It was noted that Kris Fazzone will meet with Al Beatty regarding the development of specifications for the rebuilding of the upper Veterans Field soccer field. Stan Greenbaum will be involved in the meeting.
- There was discussion about use of Park and Recreation facilities as related to Covid-19 health and safety protocols. John Wrenn noted that no volleyball or basketball open
Gyms have been scheduled yet. The discussion included a solicitation of interest, extra fees incurred for cleaning, possible “pay to play’ scenarios, various open gyms that had been offered in the past, necessary signage and waivers stating assumption of risk, and mask-wearing. It was noted that on October 8 Connecticut was expected to go into Phase III protocols. It was also noted that the Department will try to get open gyms going according to recommended protocols and will need to get an estimate for any extra cleaning that may be necessary.

New Business/Old Business:

- There has been no Dog Park report. John Wrenn will reach out to the remaining members of the committee to see if they have chosen a new coordinator.

- The maintenance person for Park and Recreation needs to be considered in coming meetings with an anticipated start date in the spring 2021.

- The proposed labyrinth project was discussed, including photos that had been emailed to all Commission members, possible materials that could be used and related costs, maintenance, proposed locations and projected uses if installed. No decisions were reached.

Director’s Report:

- Mr. Wrenn shared the checking account report with the Commission.

- ASP was still in good shape and will continue.

- Skiing season will be coming soon and it should be a good year for it.

- Hopefully volleyball and basketball open gyms will be offered.

TJ Fazzone made a motion to adjourn the October 5, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kellett
Park and Recreation Secretary

Mary Jo Dix
Recording Secretary

The next regular meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission is Monday, November 9, 2020