

Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes - Thursday, January 22, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Charles Wood. The meeting was held in the Town Hall, Conference Room #1. Members present were Charles Wood, Daniel Silbo, Carmelo Amoddio and Jason Booker. Also present were Kathleen Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation and Council Liaison Jeff Kotkin.

Charlie Wood welcomed the new members to the Parks and Recreation Board. The new members are Carmelo Amoddio and Jason Booker. Board members took a few moments to provide an overview to the new members on the role of the Advisory Parks and Recreation Board. Mr. Booker and Mr. Amoddio thanked the board members for the overview and were looking forward to working with the Board. Mr. Wood encouraged them to ask questions about any agenda items or any concerns or issues they have as it relates to the Parks and Recreation in town.

A. Public Comments.

No comments.

B. Minutes - December 18, 2008.

Dan Silbo moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Charlie Wood and voted unanimously.

C. Monthly Report - December 2008.

Monthly report was reviewed by members.

D. Letters and Announcements.

1. Park Board Priority List for Capital Improvement Projects.

Board members reviewed their priority list for capital improvement projects. This list was prioritized at their December 18, 2008 meeting. Mr. Wood gave the new members a quick review of these projects for the upcoming budget year. He explained how the Park Board prioritizes the list of projects developed by the Parks and Recreation Department. Ms. Bagley explained the process for review and approval of these projects. She reported that the next step is for the Town's Capital Improvement Advisory Committee to review all town projects, including the school department's projects, road improvements, parking lots, roof repair, drainage, town buildings and the Parks and Recreation Department projects. This committee will develop a priority list for the Town Manager. The Town Manager will submit a budget to the Town Council, with selected capital improvement projects. The Town Council will make the final decision on projects funded for an upcoming budget year. Mr. Wood explained that over the past several years, the Parks and Recreation Department has received funding for projects and hopes this will continue for the future. He explained that not all their projects get funded. Usually one or two projects each year get funded by the town budget.

Ms. Bagley reported that the town submitted their list of Capital Improvement Projects to the state for possible federal funding. Many of the Parks and Recreation projects were included on this list. In order for any project to be funded it must be considered a shovel ready project. A shovel ready project means it can be completed in 180 days. Further information will be forthcoming if the town gets federal funding for any projects.

E. Old Business.

1. Mill Woods Park Building Committee - Project Status.

Mr. Wood asked Ms. Bagley to provide a status report on the construction of the new Little League field. She reported that the new lights for this field were tested in December and functioned perfectly. The Building Committee is now concentrating on other items still remaining for completion. These items include the bleacher pad and bleachers, flagpole installation, and construction of the press box. Ms. Bagley reported that the press box is being undertaken as a volunteer project and this group has had their first meeting with her to outline the steps necessary for this construction.

2. Mill Woods Park Road Sign in Memory of Dick Dobmeier.

Ms. Bagley reported that she received a draft road sign from the Physical Services Department naming the Mill Woods Park road in honor of Dick Dobmeier. This road sign was picked up by Mr. Dan Smith for review by the Dobmeier family. Ms. Bagley also asked that the family review the wording of the plaque that will go on the memorial bench for Mr. Dobmeier. Once the family OKs these items the request for naming the park road will go to the Town Council.

3. Cottone Field Football Lights.

Mr. Silbo asked about the status of the Cottone football lights. Ms. Bagley reported that the lights are going out to bid next week.

4. Keane Foundation Carnival.

The Town Council approved the Keane Foundation's request to hold their carnival at Cove Park on October 16-18, 2009. The next step is to go to the Zoning Board of Appeals for their review.

5. Bed and Breakfast on Broad Street Green.

Mr. Silbo asked the outcome of the Bed and Breakfast item on the Planning and Zoning Commission agenda. The Planning and Zoning Commission held their meeting this past week and information will be available once their minutes are completed. Ms. Bagley will get their minutes for the Board's next meeting.

F. New Business.

1. Proposed Budget 2009-10.

Ms. Bagley gave board members an update on the budget for the upcoming year. The proposed budget for next year will be submitted to the Town Manger at a zero increase from this year. She will give members a proposed budget for the department at their next meeting.

G. Motion to Adjourn.

Dan Silbo moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion seconded by Jason Booker and voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director
Parks and Recreation Department