

Wethersfield Advisory Parks and Recreation Board
Harbor Management Commission
Minutes - Thursday, March 24, 2016

The meeting was held at Town Hall and called to order by Chairperson Tom Ragonese at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Richard Lepore, Tom Mull, Tom Ragonese, John Rascius and Dan Silbo. Also present were Mike Hurley, Council Liaison, Tony Ruggiero, Deputy Harbormaster, and Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation.

A. Public Comments.

None.

B. Minutes – February 25, 2016.

Dan Silbo moved to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Mull and approved unanimously.

C. Monthly Report – January 2016.

Board members reviewed the monthly report. Chairperson Ragonese asked about the Egg Hunt and status of ballfields for spring. Ms. Bagley reported that the Egg Hunt was held indoors because of wet field conditions with approximately 400 children participating. Spring fields are coming on line and the high school fields are the first priority. Tom Mull stated that Mill Woods Softball Field #1 was in good condition. Chairperson Ragonese asked about the Special Olympics snowshoeing competition held in February. Ms. Bagley said that snow was made for the competition and the special athletes had a great time. Members also reported that the Youth Advisory Board will hold a fundraiser for the Campership Fund in Social and Youth Services. The fundraiser will be held at Lucky Lou's on May 4th. Tickets cost \$30 and will cover appetizers with a cash bar. Twenty dollars will go to the campership fund for children in Wethersfield. A Mayor's Ball will be held on June 3 at the Wethersfield Country Club to benefit the Wethersfield Food Bank.

D. Letters and Announcements.

1. Fishing Derby – April 30 at Spring Street Pond.

Chairperson Ragonese reminded members of this event and noted that it is the 6th annual derby.

2. Status of Recreation Supervisor Position/Vacancy in Youth Development Manager Position.

Ms. Bagley reported that Rachael Sunny has accepted the Recreation Supervisor position. She is currently the Youth Development Manager for the Town and her current responsibilities include the Nature Center Operation and Youth Programs in the Social and Youth Services Department. The town will now be advertising to fill the Youth Development Manager position.

3. Summer Brochure.

The brochure is at printers and will be delivered in Rare Reminder to residents on March 31. It can be viewed on the town website.

E. Old Business.

1. Parks and Recreation Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Chairperson Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley to provide information on the status of the budget process. She reported that the Town Manager is assembling his budget and the only cut to the Parks and Recreation budget at this time is the request for a \$10,000 increase for matching funds for the Wethersfield Early Childhood Collaborative (WECC). Their grant funds end on June 30, 2016 and they were looking to use this increase to help with other potential grant opportunities. Further discussion will take place on this request during the budget process.

F. New Business.

1. Online Registration Software Update.

Ms. Bagley reported that the department is installing software to allow for online registration with Smart Phones and iPads. A number of requests have come in for this service.

G. Board Member Comments.

Tom Mull asked if the Glastonbury Yacht Club could purchase a mooring for their members to use in the Cove. He did not know if Glastonbury Yacht Club was interested, he was just asking the question. He used the example of Yacht Clubs having the opportunity to purchase a mooring for their members use at other locations. Chairperson Ragonese asked that it be looked into and see if we can make it work. Ms. Bagley will research the question.

H. Harbor Management Commission.

1. Wethersfield Cove Yacht Club Notification.

Chairperson Ragonese reported that the Yacht Club has been notified of the mooring information from the Army Corps. Ms. Bagley sent an email to Jack Guilmartin and copied Chairperson Ragonese on Friday, February 26, 2016.

2. Harbormaster Report.

Chairperson Ragonese reviewed the report with commission members and noted the town has allocated \$20,000 for the purchase of a used boat. Town staff will develop a Request for Proposals for the boat and solicit input on the specifications from the harbormasters. Tony Ruggiero mentioned that he had been discussing the boat specifications with Charlie Forsdick. The goal is to have a boat in place for the upcoming boating season.

I. Motion to Adjourn.

Tom Mull moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion was seconded by Dan Silbo and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen A. Bagley, Director
Parks and Recreation Department