

Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Harbor Management Commission
Minutes - Thursday, February 28, 2013

The meeting was held at Town Hall and called to order by Chairperson Tom Ragonese at 7:10 p.m. Members present were Tom Ragonese, Tom Mull and John Rascius. Also present was Mike Hurley, Town Council Liaison and Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation.

A. Public Comments.

None.

B. Minutes – January 24, 2013.

John Rascius moved to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2013 monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Mull and approved unanimously. Committee members discussed the new town web site and Ms. Bagley reported that it will be going live to residents in a couple of weeks.

C. Monthly Report – January 24, 2013.

The Monthly Report was reviewed by Board members.

D. Letters and Announcements.

1. Town's Draft Plan of Conservation and Development.

Ms. Bagley showed board members a color draft of the Plan of Conservation and Development. She explained that the Planning and Zoning Commission is accepting comments from the public about the plan. A public hearing on the draft plan will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

E. Old Business.

1. Mill Woods Beach Drainage Project.

Chairperson Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley for an update on this project. She reported that this project is out to bid with the results coming back on March 21, 2013. This project will provide drainage for the Mill Woods Beach and prevent the beach from washing out into the swim area. This project is scheduled to be completed prior to the summer 2013 swim season.

2. Willard Pool Project – Replace Chlorine Delivery System.

Chairperson Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley to explain this project to the board. This system will use chlorine tablets instead of the existing liquid chlorine for the filter operation at Willard Pool. Also, new controllers will be installed at the pool with this system. The budget for this project was \$46,400. The town received three bids and the low bid came in at \$28,500 from CSNE construction. They had done the renovation work on the pool in 1996. The town received an excellent bid for this work. This work will be completed in April and May 2013.

F. New Business.

1. Budget for FY 2013-14.

Chairperson Ragonese discussed the upcoming budget with board members. Ms. Bagley distributed the Parks and Recreation preliminary budget for fiscal year 2013-14. Also, she distributed a summary sheet identifying the increases to the budget and a preliminary budget for the Nature Center. Ms. Bagley explained that this budget is preliminary because it does not have the benefit numbers for FY 2013-14. She reviewed the budget increases of \$105,499 with members and explained that the Nature Center budget request from the town is increasing \$43,000, because their revenue is not meeting projections. Also, the Friend's of the Nature Center have informed her that they will not be able to contribute funds towards the operating cost of the Nature Center for the upcoming fiscal year.

Another major increase is \$23,425 for spring pool prep for the outdoor pools. Ms. Bagley explained that the Physical Services Division has informed her that they can no longer do this work. The individual who did the work in the past has retired, so this cost is now included in the budget. Chairman Ragonese asked board members if they had any other questions on the budget at this time. No further questions were asked and Chairman Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley to keep the board updated on the budget process.

G. Board Member Comments.

None.

H. Harbor Management Commission.

1. Boating Infrastructure Grant.

Ms. Bagley reported that she is waiting for the State to send her a contract to finalize the grant dollars.

Chairperson Ragonese asked her to follow up with the staff at the State to get the contract finalized.

2. Cove Dredging Project.

Chairman Ragonese explained that the dredging project is being considered by the State Department of Transportation for a bond project. Hopefully, it will be placed on the State of Connecticut Bond Commission Agenda at a March meeting. He asked Ms. Bagley to keep board members informed on this process.

3. Mr. Walter Mooring.

Chairman Ragonese reviewed the Harbormaster's suggestion via email for Mr. Walter's mooring with board members. Chairman Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley to contact Mr. Walter and get his opinion on the Harbormaster's suggestion. The Board will consider a vote on a mooring plan at a future meeting after further discussion with the Harbormaster and Mr. Walter.

I. Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by Tom Mull and seconded by John Rascius to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director
Parks & Recreation Department