

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BROOKFIELD PARKS & RECREATION
COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BROOKFIELD, HELD AT TOWN HALL, WEDNESDAY,
MAY 27, 2015, AT 7:30 P.M.**

Present: Ed Butt, Acting Chairman; Joei Grudzinski, Bryan Chnowski, Rob Blick, Renee J. Santiago, Dennis DiPinto, Director; Elaine Rajcula, Secretary.

Absent: Sara Kincade, Tony Tomaino, Mike Ferand

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – The minutes were accepted with corrections by R. Blick, seconded by B. Chnowski. Passed. Under: Parks Supervisor’s Report- 1st:sentence: dogs on a leash and firmly in control. 2nd sentence remove: **buildings and.**

Recreation Supervisor’s Report - Mary Knox – The Speed Sitting program on Tuesday, May 19, was a success. She has received positive feedback from the baby sitters and the parents that participated. P & R assisted Race Director Cassie Dunn again this year with registration and raffle donations. 303 people completed the course and all monies raised are donated to the Brookfield Track Restoration Fund to ensure the continued maintenance of the track at BHS. Another program is Singing and Signing with Ms. Janine. It is a free drop in program that we offer Wednesday afternoons at the playground during May, July and October. Ms. Janine sings and plays guitar, while teaching children sign language. Tickets for the 2015 Radio City Christmas Show have been ordered for December.

Parks Supervisor’s Report as of May 27, 2015 – Chris Rabuse – All schools’ Spring sport fields being conditioned and painted; trash removal at all sites; trash removal 3 times per week; start mowing all sports field twice weekly; prune Town Hall and Band Stand trees; prepare and provide logistics for Spring lacrosse tournament; refurbish playground mulch in preschool areas, prepare all High School synthetic fields for Spring sports; paint all baseball/softball foul lines and track throwing vectors on practice football area. Set up all Spring sports fields at all Town Sites, including lining/painting, and installing trash cans; install soccer/discus/lacrosse/batting cage nets where needed; install windscreens at HS baseball/softball field training on new boat power washer system; start weekly grooming of all baseball/softball fields 3 times per week and all other Town areas including trails at Happy Landings/Gurski properties at least bi-monthly. Trails are getting more use lately. Assist Garden Club one full day at Colonial Garden and island. Bulk cleanup/pruning and edging, to get members started for the year. Kids Kingdom playground plant bed edging. At Town Hall started up irrigation systems, install pump/set up additional timers/repair broken heads; replace broken float assembly. All done in house, as irrigation companies were not available. Assist Williams Park tennis set-up repairing broken irrigations head and replacing time clock. Spike aerate and fertilize main sports fields; lightly roto-tilled Cadigan softball field to try and make playable. Many fields were in rough shape due to early dry conditions. Installed dugout pads with processed stones at new Cadigan Softball Field. Install new player benches in dugouts (this project was to be done by the fencing contractor). Run through new irrigation, set timer as needed, irrigation heads for clay management.

Set up and turn on comfort station at Kids Kingdom. Repaired broken main water pipe on inside wall. Partial Spring cleanup at all schools and playgrounds.

Future Work

1. flower plantings/mulching at key Town sites
2. ball field work needed that Spring did not allow for
3. trash removal
4. synthetic field grooming and repairs
5. Town Park prep work at some point. Picnic bench setup/grill setup
6. Mowing at all Town sites trail mowing and some trail site work
7. Equipment maintenance
8. Band Shell sanding/staining on new stair/rail areas

Said report is on file in the Parks & Recreation office for a more in depth review.

Cadigan Basketball Courts – E. Butt stated the basketball courts are “structures without rules.” R. Blick suggested that we may need someone to oversee the courts, as there are different age groups each night. D. DiPinto stated R. Blick gave great input on the tennis problem. D. DiPinto will introduce an 11:00 p.m. curfew; lights out at 10:00 p.m. Signs will be put up stating same. Police will be notified. The commission will continue to monitor the apparent non-resident use of these courts.

Cadigan Soft Ball Field – D. DiPinto reported the fencing is now up and looks great. and the field looks great. E. Butt asked the Director if there was a concern when teams are playing ball, people are walking on the sidewalk.

Financial Report – The Director stated that all things considered, we are in good shape.

P & R Facebook Page– D. DiPinto gave an update on the P & R Facebook. One thousand people like us on the Parks & Recreation page.

Town & School Facilities – D. DiPinto informed the Commission that a previous BOE facility supervisor did all the electrical for the newer scoreboard about three years ago. It was not until recently that we realized that the electrical conduit that feeds the scoreboard from the School was left above ground in conduit. We hope to bury the conduit as part of a flag pole replacement project that could happen by this Fall .

Old Business

Town Beach Site Plan – D. DiPinto – Passed around the preliminary site plan with the drawing of the Basketball Court location on the beach side. This modified court will be approximately 25' x 44" with site prep to be performed by Hawley Construction. The Board discussed same. Actual court construction will take place after the beach opens.

Greenway Update – D. DiPinto stated we are with a couple of weeks of recommending a contractor for the construction of the Still River Greenway. As a direct result of the bids we will likely need to get approval for additional funding in the amount about \$80,000. The Director will be speaking with the First Selectman on a strategy to approve more money in the next couple of weeks.

Town Beach Renovations, Parks Revitalization Phase 2 - D. DiPinto – Steady progress continues on the site. It is our hope that we are in a position for at least a partial opening of the Town Beach on June 20. The three season beach building is also seeing steady progress. The building is likely going to be open annually May through October only as it will not be efficient to heat in the Winter months.

Cadigan Park Building and Pavilion Renovations, Parks Revitalization Phase 3 – The contractor has begun the demo work to the pavilion and support buildings. Building permit submission and approvals have delayed the project about ten day however progress is now happening.

Parks & Recreation Officers – Elections will be tabled to the next meeting in July.

Adjournment – A motion was made by J. Grudzinski to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m., seconded by R. Santiago. Passed.

The next meeting of the P & R Commission will be on Wednesday, June 24, 2015, at 7:30 P.M. If you cannot -attend this meeting, please call the office at 203-775-2420.