

MEETING: Stonington Recreation Commission
PLACE: Stonington Recreation Administration Building
DATE: January 30, 2006
TIME: 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Director, Sharon Bousquet; Chairman, Mike Crowley; Vice Chairman, Frank Prachniak, Jr.; Members, Beth Quesnel, Paulla Solar, George Thayer, Larry Theadore; Human Services Director, Beth-Ann Stewart; Secretary, Leanne DiGangi

ABSENT: Paulla Solar

I. Public Opportunity to Address Commission

NA

II. Secretary's Report

Leanne DiGangi stated that she researched the mileage reimbursement, which Director Bousquet submitted under the Director's Expense line, and found that on the most recent finance statement, the charge has been removed.

Upon motion made by George Thayer and seconded by Beth Quesnel the minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and it was voted (6-0).

III. Budget Report

Upon motion made by George Thayer and seconded by Frank Prachniak, Jr. the budget report was accepted and it was voted (6-0).

Chairman Crowley stated that Beth Stewart, Frank Prachniak, Jr. and himself has a positive meeting with Board of Finance members and it was his understanding that the full-time Director position would be supported.

Beth Stewart stated that, after reviewing the budget, First Selectman Brown kept the Director position full-time, but made a \$2,200 to existing funding, not the adopted funding for FY 06-07 that the Commission voted on.

Chairman Crowley stated that he will present the numbers that the Commission voted on.

Beth Stewart stated that when cuts were made to specific lines last year, funds were not restored to remaining lines and that the Commission needs to ensure that funds are restored under expenses in the case that the full-time Director position is not approved.

Discussion ensued between Commission members regarding the benefits package for the full-time position. It was decided that, although the package is costly, it should stay

with the position. In the case that Director Bousquet was to leave the position, a prospective new employee may expect benefits with a full-time position.

IV. Communications

NA

V. Old Business

Golf League

Director Bousquet stated that Stonington Recreation is still planning a golf league this season, even though Jim Ballato has expressed an interest in creating a league of his own with Stonington Recreation players. She stated that she will be sending a letter to all players regarding their interest in the 2006 league.

VI. New Business

The word "playground" needs to be changes to "fields" on agenda

Chairman Crowley stated that a meeting had taken place with himself, Frank Prachniak, Jr., Larry Theadore, Mike McKee, Harold LaBreque, Steve Murphy and Beth Stewart regarding the High School & Recreation field conditions.

Chairman Crowley stated that a consultant, Bill Dest, toured the fields and gave an estimate of \$5,000-7,000 to provide a consultation. He stated that the Board of Education would be responsible for paying the fee.

Beth stated that if the Board of Finance released the game revenue a separate account could be created to support this fee. Chairman Crowley stated that the Board of Finance has a history of not releasing these funds.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not there was an existing irrigation system in the softball field. Bill Stewart was not able to find a hookup for the system.

VII. Programs

High School Boy's Basketball Incident

Beth Stewart sent a letter detailing this incident to Commission members. Chairman Crowley and George Thayer thanked Beth for the good job in handling this situation. Aimee Reed was hired to help monitor this program.

VIII. Director's Report

NA

IX. Other Business

Saturday Basketball Program

Paulla Solar stated that there are still problems and that there are kids everywhere while the program is going on. Director Bousquet stated that one of the extra refs could check that hallways periodically.

Paulla asked if parents had been made aware of the entrances they were supposed to use as well as the hall policies. Director Bousquet stated that she would speak to Larry at PMS regarding the situation.

X. Chairman's Comments

None

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Crowley adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leanne DiGangi
Secretary