

**Stonington Recreation Commission Meeting**  
**Monday, Sept 24, 2007**  
**Human Service Building**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Minutes**

Present for the meeting were: Chairman, C. Michael Crowley; Vice President Frank Prachniak, Jr.; Board Members George Thayer, Paula Solar, Beth Quesnel, Joe Ciriello and Beth Stewart, Director of Human Services.

Absent: Board Members: Larry Theadore

**Publics' Opportunity to Address the Commission:**

None

**Secretary's Report:**

Mr. Thayer motioned to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2007 meeting with one minor change, correcting the date of the meeting, and Mr. Ciriello seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Budget Report:**

Ms. Stewart presented the Budget Report. The Commission discussed the cost of Public Restrooms for the fields in order to prepare a plan for CIP. Chairman Crowley suggested a subcommittee to come up with a plan to bring forward to the Finance Committee. Chairman Crowley, George Thayer, Joe Ciriello and Frank Prachniak offered to serve on the committee, one member being an alternate. Chairman Crowley stated he would like to see a five year plan include a fence to surround the Playground at Spellman Park.

Mr. Thayer motioned to accept the Budget Report and Mr. Prachniak seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Communications:**

None

**Recreation Director:**

Brian Forman was hired as the new Recreation Director. Mr. Forman has taken the Playground Certification Course; the results of the test were not available for the meeting. Mr. Forman begins his new position on Monday, October 1, 2007.

**Programs:**

Ms. Stewart presented the Commission with the Summer Program Counts to date at 1,899. Summer Playground and Youth Instructional Golf Evaluation results were handed out to Commission members. Other evaluations for summer programs remain pending. The majority of comments were favorable,

with staff interaction being the lowest; all comments will be reviewed in order to improve the programs. Ms. Stewart reported the Summer Leagues went very well. The fall program for Crew had to be dropped as a coach could not be found. Next year the program would be offered, and the search for a coach will include utilizing the CT Parks and Rec website for recruitment of coaches. Movie night was canceled because of rain. The new movie night date is Friday October 12, 2007 at the Mystic River Park. Flyers were distributed. Commission members discussed the fee for the Fall Junior Co-ed Golf program. Although the price seemed a little steep to some members, all agreed the 8 sessions were reasonable. Ms. Solar stated the SHS Basketball Open Gym Program was successful, with a good attendance. The Senior Exercise Program has outgrown its space at Stonington Arms and will be held at the United Congregational Church on Pequot Trail. Captains meetings have been announced for the Fall Leagues which include Co-ed Volleyball and Men's Basketball. The Commission agreed that all who sign up for a League will be required to sign a Code of Conduct to help insure good sportsmanship and respect for the property.

**Director's Report:**

The trees at the playground have been trimmed for safety purposes. The gutters on some of the buildings are in need of repair, and quotes will be acquired. The Fence for the Borough Playground Project is out to bid. The Town has set aside \$10,000.00. The Commission began discussion on a schedule for the Court lights. Although a decision does not have to be made until spring, Paula Solar, Joe Ciriello and Beth Quesnel agreed to serve on a spring committee to consider the schedules for the courts, and come up with a more conservative use of the lights. The Administrative Services Department is in the process of going out to bid for a small truck for the Human Services Department. The USSSA Softball League was denied usage of the Softball Field for their scheduled second event this summer due to trash and alcohol containers left behind. This group's use of the field last year resulted in the damage of two soccer goals.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Thayer motioned to adjourn and Ms. Quesnel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Crowley, Chairman