

**Stonington Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 28, 2011 at 6:00 PM
Human Services Room**

Present: Chairman C. Michael Crowley, Vice-Chair Frank Prachniak
Commissioners: Joe Ciriello, Joe McKernan, Beth Quesnel, and Paulla Solar
Recreation Administrator Joseph Mendonca, Jr.
Absent: Commissioner Larry Theadore

I. Publics' Opportunity to Address the Commission
No comments.

II. Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Commissioner Quesnel to accept the Secretary's Report.
Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Frank Prachniak and approved.

III. Budget Report

a. General Fund

- Proposed 2011-2012 budget cuts: \$2,500 Other Salaries, \$2,500 Officials & Instructors
- Utilities: utility company charging for reading of meter, in addition to an undetermined source drawing power. Utility company can shut down & power back on specific dates, when requested. Administrator Mendonca proposed shutting down after summer programs complete this season. Chair Crowley will contact Ken Donovan.

b. Special Activity

A motion was made by Commissioner McKernan to accept the budget reports. Motion seconded by Commissioner Quesnel and approved.

IV. Stonington Rocks

First Selectman proposing summer concert series in Donahue Park, Friday evenings (proposed dates 7/15, 8/5, 8/19) from 6-8pm. Administrator Mendonca stated the First Selectman is planning this as a family event to bring people to the downtown area, and has taken the lead in planning and securing bands. Expense per band ranges from \$2K - \$5K for two hours, but does not include any additional costs, such as required lighting, staging, police coverage, salaries, etc; with the plan of securing sponsors and using Recreation funds to offset what sponsorship does not cover. If modeled after concerts at Esker Point, concert would not occur if sponsorship is not received. Questions regarding appropriateness of funding this event arose, since personnel were cut in the FY11-12 budget. In addition, future projects will need to be revisited if cost needs to be offset with Recreation activities funding. Meetings will occur in the next month. Administrator Mendonca stated he hopes volunteers from the Downtown Business Association will be available to assist with the event. Chair Crowley stated Recreation needs to get involved in more public events, and believes this will be a great event to participate in, provided it is not cost prohibitive. Commissioner Ciriello stated he has spoken to individuals that are not aware that Spellman Park facilities are overseen by Recreation, and believes the Commission should consider greater branding, especially on Spellman Park facilities. Administrator Mendonca suggested a welcome sign for Spellman Recreation Complex.

V. Communications
None

VI. Programs- Update

a. This month

- Golf & Softball – Captains meetings this Wednesday
- Volleyball – Playoffs begin this week
- Como basketball program ended
- Weight loss challenge – Registration starting March 28th

b. Next Month

- Planning continues for summer programming

VII. Recreation Administrator's Report

VIII. Other Business

a. Election of Officers

- Chairman
Commissioner Quesnel made a motion to elect C. Michael Crowley Chairman. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Prachniak and approved.
- Vice-Chairman
Commissioner McKernan made a motion to elect Frank Prachniak Vice-Chairman. Motion seconded by Commissioner Quesnel and approved.

b. Updates/Future Projects Sub Committees Progress

- Beach Volleyball Courts
- Hailey's Way Playground
Proposal from GameTime reviewed. Administrator Mendonca brought Chuck Ramondo of New England Recreation Group (and regional representative for Greenfield Outdoor Fitness), to Hailey's Way playground, and requested a proposal from Greenfield. Will table decision until both proposals completed.
- Walking Exercise Trail
Administrator Mendonca will contact Town Engineer Larry Sullivan for status.
- Pavilion
Completion expected before summer program begins.
- Restrooms
Student drawings reviewed.

IX. Chairman's Comments

None

X. Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Commissioner Solar to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Quesnel and approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:41PM.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. Michael Crowley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

C. Michael Crowley, Chairman