

Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of July 1, 2009 Meeting

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission on Wednesday, July 1, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. at the Armory. In attendance were Chairperson Fairchild, Secretary Dan Lovallo, and Commissioner Jim Pescatore, as well as Superintendent Brett Simmons and Recreation Director Donna Winn.

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting. On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the special meeting on June 10, 2009.

Correspondence

Superintendent Simmons gave Commissioners information on the Lowe's/ Lime Rock Park collaboration to be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at Alvord Park.

Citizen's Comments

Mr. Duane Knowles spoke about the signs that he would like to see installed in the front of the Armory.

Mr. David Frigo, representing UNICO and the Sons of Italy, stated that those two organizations will not be able to care for the area around the Christopher Columbus monument any longer. It will be the city's responsibility.

Facility Requests

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the following requests already approved by the committee.

- Torrington Fire Department for Coe Memorial Park on November 9, 2009.
- Center for Cancer Care for Coe Memorial Park on August 2, 2009.
- Torrington Police and Family Strides for Besse Pool on August 11, 2009.
- Mayor's Office for Coe Memorial Park on July 2, 2009.
- PAL for Besse Skate Park on July 25, 2009.
- Torrington Area Health for the Armory on September 30, 2009.

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to table the request by Tom Eucalitto for a proposed concert at the Armory in December.

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the request of Gina Spring of the Torrington Police Department for a softball tournament at Toro 1 pending availability of the field, fees to be paid, and insurance certification.

Program Update

Recreation Director Donna Winn updated the Commission on the various programs now underway for the summer. She stated that there were ninety-five children enrolled in the Summer Playground program. She also stated that she felt that Besse Pool was opened too early this season.

Coe Memorial Park Update

As most Commissioners were present for the walking tour of the park and for the meeting that followed, no further update was needed.

Christmas Village Update

Commissioners will schedule a meeting in early September to begin discussions on what needs to be done for the upcoming Christmas opening.

Old Business

Hot Dog Vendor for Toro: On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council that Linda Marsh of Casual Cart be awarded the bid for Toro.

Superintendent Simmons updated the Commission on the upcoming fireworks to be held at the Middle School on July 4th. Everything is progressing nicely.

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the erection of a sign by the Marines for the front of the Armory building. Mr. Knowles will work with Superintendent Simmons on this project.

New Business

Miss Stacey's Program: Superintendent Simmons explained a proposed fund raiser and project as suggested by Miss Stacey. Commissioners had many questions and concerns in this regard. On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted

unanimously to form a committee and enlist the advice of Public Works Director Jerry Rollett and City Attorney Ernestine Weaver before granting any approval.

Elks / Varsity Alumni Basketball: No further discussion was needed as the City Council changed the budget reductions of the Commission and restored half the stipends to the budget and the school janitorial fees in the amount of \$15,000.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Simmons updated the Commission on the following:

- Capital Project Update: Brett addressed Commissioners with the projects already underway and those he would be proposing. He will call a meeting of the subcommittee for these proposals.
- Facilities Update: Brett spoke about the work being undertaken at this time.
- Budget Update: This information was shared as part of the Elks/ Varsity Alumni report.

Other Business

Rob Manchester is looking for an alternative field. Discussion centered once again on the pros and cons of this idea.

Adjournment

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Fairchild

Chairperson

