

Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission  
Minutes of Meeting  
Wednesday, November 5, 2008

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a regular meeting of the Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, at the Armory at 6:00 P.M. In attendance were Commissioners Dan Lovallo, Jim Pescatore, Superintendent Brett Simmons, Recreation Director Donna Winn, and Public Works Director Jerry Rollett.

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2008, Commission meeting.

**Correspondence**

To be handled under Other Business

**Citizen's Comments**

Carol Bottass from Pierce Street addressed the Commission with her concerns about her flooded yard as a result of the work at Romaniello Field. Other neighbors in attendance also spoke of their frustration over the years concerning this problem.

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to change the order of the agenda putting the Bike Path before Facility Requests as several representatives of the Bike Path were in attendance.

**Bike Path**

Representatives of the Bike Path and commissioners collaborated on ideas concerning the future maintenance of the Bike Path. The Department will research the costs that other towns incur in the maintenance of their bike paths.

**Facility Requests**

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the following pre-approved facility requests:

- Torrington Christian Academy for the Armory, selected dates, with \$50/hr. attendant fee.
- Kim Barbieri for Coe Memorial Park, Dec.8, City sponsored.
- Chris Vita for the Armory, selected dates, Chamber of Commerce and the City of Torrington.

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the request of Sherry Grech for Coe Memorial Park with the \$50/hr. maintenance fee.

## **Program Update**

Donna Winn reported:

- She sent a letter to Jeff Smith of the Rotary Club in regards to their giving some financial assistance to the Teen Center.
- She was discouraged with the turnout for Munchkin Mania. Perhaps another time of year might work.
- The Halloween Party was successful with over 600 people in attendance.
- Christmas Village: Senator Roraback is still working on trying to get reindeer for the village. There's a possibility of getting a baby deer. WalMart is doing a float for the parade.

## **Coe Memorial Park Update**

In the absence of Fran Ducotey, Chairperson Fairchild updated the Commission on the Advisory Committee meeting held prior to the Commission meeting. She stated that the Rules & Regs sign has been put up. The Entire Tree Company has completed its work. There was some damage to the men's room. The Advisory Committee made a motion that the Commission pass on to the City Council their desire to have Mike Zaharek do the tree work at Coe Memorial Park, waiving the bidding process. On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to table the request of the Advisory Committee until further discussion could take place in which the chair of the Advisory Committee, Fran Ducotey, could take part. Renaissance Farm has been at work putting the park "to bed" for the winter. The RFP for the spring work at the park should be out this week.

## **Teen Center Update**

Superintendent Simmons reported that all was well with the Teen Center.

## **Old Business**

- Drakeville Property: Brett emailed the draft copy of the lease for the property to commissioners. The removal of the fence began today. On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Drakeville lease.
- Park Rules: Corporation Counsel Ernestine Weaver has been going over the rules. \*\*\* *See amended minutes.* \*\*\*
- Logo Contest: Brett announced that the logo contest has begun. He distributed copies of the rules to the commissioners.

## **New Business**

Sub-Committees: Superintendent Simmons went over the different sub-committees of the Commission which include Capital Funds, Facilities, Skate Park, and Sports.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Capital Project Update: On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the proposed Capital Projects as listed on the handout.

Facilities Update: Brett reported:

- He's looking into the purchasing of an ice rink for a winter carnival.
- There's been rough grading of the playscape at Besse Pond.
- Winterizing of the parks is underway.
- Graffiti has been removed.

## **Other Business**

Nutmeg Kart Association: Brett distributed information from them in regards to finding a place for them in Torrington. Commission members are asked to read over the information.

## **Adjournment**

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia A. Fairchild*

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Chairperson