

**TORRINGTON PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 1, 2008**

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a regular meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at the Armory. In attendance were Chairperson Fairchild, Vice Chair Ducotey, Secretary Lovallo, Commissioners Wall and Pescatore, Superintendent Simmons, and Recreation Director Winn.

Adoption of Previous Months Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ducotey and seconded by Commissioner Pescatore and all were in favor to approve last months meeting minutes.

Correspondence:

A letter was sent to Brett by the Civil Air Patrol, explaining their interest in installing an antenna on the roof of the Armory for the purpose of Civil Air Communications.

Citizens Comments:

None

Facility Requests:

On a motion was made by Commissioner Lovallo and seconded by Commissioner Ducotey, all were in favor to approve a request by Advocacy Unlimited for the use of Coe Memorial Park on Thursday, November 13, 2008 from 12-5 PM for a graduation ceremony.

On a motion made by Commissioner Lovallo and seconded by Commissioner Ducotey, all were in favor to approve a request by Prime Time for the use of Coe Memorial Park on Friday, December 19, 2008 for an Anniversary/ Christmas Party.

On a motion made by Commissioner Pescatore and seconded by Commissioner Wall to approve a request by Torrington Midget Football for the use of Toro Fields from October 6 through November 15, 2008 for practice. The Commission stated that they must use the area between the two fields only, and are not to be on the fields at all. All were in favor.

On a motion made by Commissioner Ducotey and seconded by Commissioner Lovallo to approve a date change on an already approved request by the Chamber Of Commerce for their Home Show. All were in favor.

Program Update:

Recreation Director Donna Winn reported to the Commission the status of the Park and Recreations programs. Donna stated that everything is going well, and that she has begun the planning for the upcoming fall and winter events.

Coe Park Update:

Coe Memorial Park Advisory Committee Chairperson Fran Ducotey updated the Commission on the status of Coe Memorial Park. Fran stated that the Advisory

Committee has requested that the heat be kept at a minimum over the winter months when it's not being used.

Entire Tree Services will be doing tree work at the park, and stump grinding work has recently been completed by Zaharak's Landscaping.

Fran stated that the Committee was questioning who will be doing the work to the flower beds, in the event that the Garden Goddess contract doesn't get renewed.

Commissioner Wall inquired on the status of fixing the water problem, and Brett advised the Commission that he is in the process of figuring out the most cost-effective way to correct the problem.

Christmas Village Update:

Donna reported that she has begun the planning for the Toy Shower, and is starting the overall planning for the Village season.

Donna also informed the Commission that the reindeer have been ordered.

Brett stated that the masonry work will be starting soon, and he also would try to meet with the City Building Inspector to go over what else may need to be addressed.

Teen Center:

Donna informed the Commission that everything is going well at the Teen Center.

Old Business:

Brett informed the Commission that after meeting with Corporation Counsel, Ernestine recommended that the request from the Department of Development Services for Coe Memorial Park for the purpose of dances be granted, and they will continue to be a City-run program.

Drakeville Property:

Brett informed the Commission that the Drakeville Fire Department has formally requested that the fencing be removed from the property; Brett will be checking how we should proceed with removing the fence.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ducotey and seconded by Commissioner Pescatore and all were in favor to get a lease signed for the use of the property at the Fire Department.

Capitol Re-Allocation Update:

Brett updated the Commission on the status of the capital projects, and explained the need to request additional monies for four additional projects that the Commission agreed need to be addressed. Brett will be preparing a formal request to move forward with approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Pescatore and seconded by Commissioner Ducotey and all were in favor to approve the request to proceed with getting additional monies for the following projects: Armory Fire Escape Updates, Park Gates, Fence Projects and West Torrington Picnic Shelter Roof.

Park Rules:

The Commission is in the process of finalizing Rules and Regulations for the City Parks. A draft will be given to Corporation Counsel for review, and the Commission will proceed once recommendations are made by Corporation Counsel.

Logo Contest:

Brett has been researching different options on the contest, and also will be meeting with Corporation Counsel for advice on how to proceed with the rules and so forth. Once all the details are worked out, we will be proceeding with advertising and getting started with the contest.

New Business:

Bike Path:

Chairperson Fairchild informed the Commission that representatives from the Sue Grossman Bike Path will be attending next month's Commission meeting to discuss ways to proceed with the bike path. Patty recommended that the Commission give thought on ideas to discuss with the bike path people for next month's meeting.

Sub-Committees:

The Commission had a discussion on coming up with ideas for other Sub-Committees, to get a better handle on different matters.

Superintendent's Report:

Brett gave his report to the Commission on the status of the month's projects, and stated all is going well.

Brett explained that due to some necessary repairs to the Life Guard Building at the Besse Pool, the budgeted money for the playscape at Besse Park was not sufficient to complete the project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lovallo and seconded by Commissioner Pescatore to approve Brett's request to obtain an additional \$5,000.00 from the Besse Trust to complete the playscape. All were in favor.

Other Business:

None

Adjournment:

On a motion made by Commissioner Pescatore and seconded by Commissioner Lovallo, all were in favor to adjourn at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel Lovallo, Secretary