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Patricia B. O'Sullivan
TOWN CLERK

Orange Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Town Hall Meeting Room – 7:30 p.m.

January 24, 2018

(Unapproved)

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Present: Chairman Joseph Lembo, Vice Chairman James O'Connor, David Corris, Chuck Stackpole, James Ronai, and Stephen Bospuda

Commissioners Absent: Lisa Zarny and Linda Kantor

Staff: Dan Lynch, Director of Parks and Recreation; Deborah Satonick, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Lembo called the January twenty-fourth, 2018 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

2. PUBLIC DIALOGUE

- There was no public dialogue at this time.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 20, 2017

*Mr. O'Connor made a motion to approve the December twentieth, 2017 Parks and Recreation minutes, seconded by Mr. Corris. All were in favor, with Mr. Ronai abstaining. The motion **PASSED.***

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Questions from Previous Meeting

- Mr. Lynch reported that all state money and grants are on hold due to the state budget. This will include the work to be done on the Derby Milford Bridge. In addition, the

proposed second entrance into Fred Wolfe Park cannot be completed at this time due to funding.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Grounds – Mr. Bospuda

- Mr. Bospuda had nothing to report at this time. Mr. Lynch mentioned that all of the Commissioners are invited to attend the February seventh meeting at High Plains Community Center to be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Aquatics Training Room. This meeting will include all of the users of Brinley and DeGennaro fields to discuss their contribution to the upkeep of the fields.
- Mr. O'Connor will not be able to attend this meeting but will express his thoughts in writing. He suggested that Mr. Lynch speak with the First Selectman to discuss a defined cost for the use and upkeep of the fields. This cost could be passed over to the participants during the registration process. Mr. Bospuda noted that these fields also will need some rest, and four-five games cannot be scheduled daily.
- Mr. Ronai stated that the leaders do not clean up after the games nor do they hold the coaches accountable. The fields need to be raked after every game and this is not happening on a consistent basis. It was suggested that Chris Small could oversee the fields and determine if they are ready to be played on, particularly in light of a heavy rain. Mr. Ronai also suggested a summer internship using a college student to oversee the field maintenance. Mr. O'Connor felt that liability issues should not be a problem, as the college and town would dually share this responsibility.
- Mr. Lynch noted that there are also multiple users of the Town pool, including St. Joseph, Laurelton Hall, ARAC, Amity and Christian Heritage.
- Mr. Stackpole inquired if the Parks and Recreation Department has any equipment to clear the snow at Wrights Pond for ice-skating. Mr. Lembo suggested that Mr. Lynch check with other towns/cities how they remove the snow off of town ponds. into buying some equipment for next year, as they currently do not have any suitable equipment to do this work.

B. Budget – Dan Lynch

- There were no budget questions at this time. Mr. Lynch noted that in the spring he would transfer money into the line item Irrigation Maintenance, as it is currently expended.

C. Personnel - James O'Connor

- There was nothing to report at this time.

C. Director's Report

- Mr. Lynch reported that the Orange Lions Club requested the High Plains Community Center Fairgrounds for their annual Easter Egg Hunt. The event is scheduled for Saturday, March twenty-fourth, with a rain date of Saturday, March thirty-first. The gym will be reserved that day as a rain backup.
- Mr. Lynch reported that the Ski Bums program missed the first two sessions due to inclement weather. Two makeup sessions will be added at the end. The Commissioners unanimously agreed that this is a fabulous program, and commended the staff. The program fills three buses of participants, giving teenagers the opportunity to learn to ski.
- Mr. Lynch noted that the Aquatic Report and Programs Report were included in the Commissioners' packets. He also highlighted some of the recent programs through the Parks and Recreation Department to include Pizza and Paint, UConn Basketball Game and Lunch, and Mt. Snow Ski Trip. He gave a special thanks to Ms. VonRabenstein for organizing the trip to Mt. Snow and to Ms. VonRabenstein, Ms. Middleton, and Ms. Plaskowitz for going on the trip and supervising the event.

6. **Chairman's Report**

- Chairman Lembo discussed some of the Parks and Recreation Department's requests to the Capital Planning Committee. In priority, they include the following:
 1. Repair of tennis courts at High Plains Fairgrounds
 2. Repair of fencing and backstops at Mary L. Tracy School
 3. Replacement of High Plains gym floor, which is used by seniors, for elections, etc..
 4. Repair of tennis courts at Peck Place School
- Mr. O'Connor questioned the location of the tennis courts at Peck Place School and suggested that High Plains grounds is a better location for additional tennis courts.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Ronai made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Mr. Corris. All were in favor and the motion **PASSED**.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Satonick,