

Town of Groton
Parks and Recreation Commission
Wednesday, May 12, 2010
Spicer House at 7:15 PM
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chairman Butta called the meeting to order at approximately 7:15 PM

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Phil Butta, Richard McCarthy, Edward Kolnaski,
and Greg Leonard

Staff: John Silsby and Jerry Lokken

III. Approval of Minutes:

On motion of Mr. Kolnaski, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the Commission
unanimously approved the minutes of the April 14, 2010, meeting as distributed.

IV. Citizen's Petitions

None

V. Correspondence/Communications

A. Commissioners

Mr. Leonard reported that he had received inquiries from citizens interested in participating in fitness programs at the Senior Center, beyond the current Monday – Friday business hours. He suggested that Parks and Recreation Department explore developing user-fee supported fitness center activities that would be of interest to “young seniors”, (e.g. operating hours extended beyond 4:30 p.m. to facilitate the use of the facility by non-retired “young seniors”).

Mr. Butta reported that he had a conversation with Robert Peruzzotti, of the Board of Education regarding “phase II” of the school district facilities improvement program.

B. Director of Parks & Recreation

Mr. Silsby reported that he received a citizen's request that the park facilities' smoking rules be enforced. He stated he was exploring the potential to obtain grand funding for no smoking signage, especially for Poquonnock Plains Park.

VI. Town Council Referral

None

VII. Reports

A. Monthly Report

There was substantial discussion of the recent changes in youth soccer programming, (e.g. the Department will no longer be directly offering youth soccer programs; which will be administrated/provided by the Groton Soccer Club). It was noted that “recreation league” level of play would be maintained/continued.

B. Golf Course Report

Mr. Silsby reported that April was a very good month, although revenues remain slightly behind for the year.

C. Golf Advisory Board (GAB) Update

The next GAB meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2010.

D. Master Plan Committee/Sutton Park Master Plan Update

The Master Plan Committee supports the recommendation in the Master Plan for implementation of a software system that utilizes credit card and on-line options. Mr. Lokken distributed an April 28, 2010, memorandum to Mr. Silsby entitled "Revenue enhancement through the use of credit cards and upgraded software." This memorandum identifies various alternates and recommends action similar to the above referenced Master Plan recommendation. Mr. Silsby indicated he supported Mr. Lokken's recommendation. On motion of Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Kolnaski, the Commission voted unanimously that it endorses the proposal to use the credit card and upgraded software, as detailed in April 28, 2010, memorandum from Jerry Lokken to John Silsby, and as recommended to the Commission by John Silsby; furthermore, that the Commission supports the concept of purchasing the necessary equipment/software utilizing the fund balance from the Special Revenue Fund, (Recreation Program Cost Center); and furthermore, the Commission encourages the Department to seek the necessary Town approvals to implement this proposal.

E. Senior Center Project Update

Mr. Silsby reported that some minor items remained to be addressed, otherwise, the reopening of the Center is complete.

F. Boating Advisory Board (BAB) Update

Mr. Leonard reported that the BAB was engaged in various activities, including: the Spicer Park rowing shells shelter; Spicer Park kayak launching area; boat locking cable at Esker Point Park; boat racks at the Peruzzotti Boat Launch; swim buoys at the Noank Town Dock; marketing water access via a map brochure and the internet; and "Healthy Groton" small boat demo events (2).

VIII. Old Business

A. Paintball Program Update

No advancement of proposal.

B. Groton Long Point Road – additional signage by Esker Point Beach

Some new signage has been installed included a "use crosswalk" sign directed towards pedestrians. Other potential improvements include re-painting the crosswalk and also placing a cone/signage in the crosswalk reminding motorists of Connecticut's Crosswalk law.

C. FYE2011 Budget Update

Mr. Silsby stated that on May 11, 2010, the RTM approved the Parks and Recreation General Fund budget and the Golf Course Budget.

**D. New Funding Sources Credit Card/New Program Registration Software
(See above Item VII D.)**

IX. New Business: Role of the Commissioners

To be discussed next meeting.

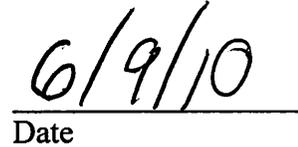
X. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 9th, at 7:15 PM at Spicer House

XI. Adjournment

On motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Kolnaski, the Commission adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Minutes have been approved and accepted.


Signature


Date