

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2015
Groton Senior Center
Meeting Minutes

I Call to Order

Chairman Kamercia, called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners: Jim Kamercia, Phil Butta, Jeff Zuliani.

Staff: Mark Berry

Absent: June Evered

Guests in Attendance - None MIKE BUONANO

III Approval of Minutes: March 11, 2015

Motion to approve made by Jeff Zuliani, seconded by Phil Butta. Approved unanimously.

IV. Citizens Petition - None

V. Town Council Referrals - None

VI. Correspondence/Communications

A. Commissioners: Jeff had none.

Phil communicated with recreation staff, league officials and players regarding issues with the Adult Indoor Floor Hockey League. Jim received a request to obtain a public address system and WiFi connection at Calvin Burrows Field. Jim also noted that the successful Mystic Irish 5K run did not include Parks and Rec logo on race signage.

B. Director: Mark received a petition from a small number of players from the Adult Floor Hockey League. Mark also stated that youth lacrosse plans to use vendors instead of parents to serve food at its jamboree.

VII. Reports

A. Director of Parks and Recreation – Mark Berry

1. Mark reported that the department is seeking grants for seed money to support the cost of joining a Senior Center Network that would provide live interactive online learning opportunities on a variety of topics.
2. The department will be approaching local orthopedic offices for sponsorship of a Walk with Ease program.

3. The department is also working with Ledge Light Health District on a system that studies park use and converts the uses to show how it affects healthcare.

B. Monthly Reports – Parks and Recreation

1. The first Mystic Irish 5K road race on March 21 had 272 runners participate. Fifty three runners were from outside of Connecticut and a post-race survey revealed that 76 of the respondents visited at least one local business. The department-sponsored event generated \$800 for the Mystic Irish Parade Foundation.
2. Mark showed department ads that ran in Connecticut Outdoors Magazine, which also included an article by GPR's Kate Bradley on the Park Race event. An ad was also placed in Connecticut Family Magazine featuring summer camps with additional ads placed on Facebook that used Facebook's demographic info for target marketing.

- C. Golf Course -** Jim reported that there was no meeting this month. Shennecossett Golf Course opened the back nine on March 31 with a full opening the next day. Jim said it was "a mob scene" as many golfers eager to shake off a long winter played the course.

- D. Boating Advisory Board -** Phil reported that at its March 19 meeting, the BAB received an update on repairs to the existing dock as well as a possible time for the installation of the new modular dock (June). BAB member Kit Talbot, assisted by Phil, will lead plans for a ribbon cutting ceremony.

A draft MOU between GPR and Noank Rowing Club (NRC) is under review as the group's transitions management of boating programs.

Small Boat Day is planned for May 30 at Esker Point Beach. Planning continues for securing vendors and activities.

NRC has had discussions with Noank Historical Society and Noank Fire District to help and assist the future use of Spicer Park if GPR moves out of Spicer House.

September's Coastweeks Regatta will limit competition to rowing singles and doubles as a result of construction of Mystic Seaport's new exhibit building.

The next BAB meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, April 30, at 6 p.m. at Spicer House.

- E. Trails Coordinating Task Force - no report**

VIII. Unfinished Business - none

IX. New Business

Mark presented a copy of requests for athletic fields as evidence that the fields are being heavily used.

Mark mentioned parks crews are line painting more fields, including double lining, so it may not be able to line fields as often as it did in the past.

Mark will present the department's budget for next year to the Town Council on April 18, the RTM's Recreation Committee on April 20 and to the full RTM on May 5.

X. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 13 at 7 p.m. at the Groton Senior Center.

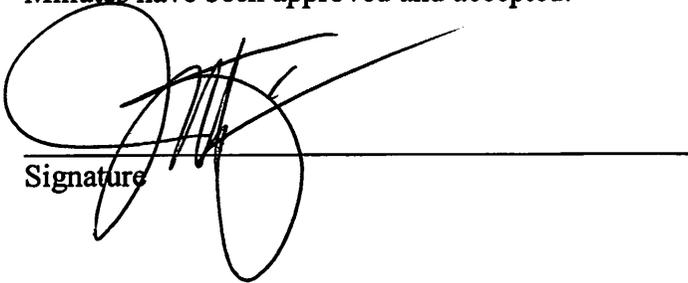
XI. Adjournment

Phil made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jeff. Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by Phil Butta

Minutes have been approved and accepted.

Signature

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Date

5/13/15