

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, June 10, 2014**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Don Woods called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Eileen Francolino, Mary Udice, Ed Marchion, Kathy Zolad, Ken Leggo, Bill DeBlasio, Don Woods, Richard Khentigan

Board Members Absent: Robert Fresen, Jen Win-Johnson

Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF May 13, 2014

Richard Khentigan made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2014 meeting. Eileen Francolino seconded the motion. The motion passed with an 8-0 vote.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Rose Lyons of 46 Elton Drive. Rose would like the pathway that runs from Elton Drive and Farmstead up to St. Mary's to be cleaned up before the extravaganza and on a regular basis. She noticed a tree was down in the area. She also mentioned that during the Relay for Life the noise level was loud and the area was left untidy from the participants of the event. Bruce mentioned he would like to see if it is possible to hold this event at Newington High School in the future, it would be better served there because of the running track. He will have a meeting with Lou Jachimowicz. Rose also raised the question of the process to request tree removal. Bruce mentioned the Parks and Rec Department does not normally take down the trees if they are not on town property unless it poses a liability. The Tree Warden (who reports to Bruce) takes and documents all calls regarding the trees in town, gives information to Bruce lets him know which ones are and are not a town tree and then they decide how to take care of it. The Tree Warden gives a monthly report to Bruce of all the trees that are taken down and calls that he gets.

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

The two girl scouts who have stopped by in the past sent Bruce a letter with a card and picture. They are also doing a few things with their neighborhood watch.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Golf Tournament: Most of the figures from the tournament are in. The Parks and Recreation Department made a profit of \$7,400 for 2014 which will go into a special revenue fund. Figures and number of golf participants have dropped over the past couple of years.

Extravaganza: Everything is all set and ready to go. Corporate Row has six groups signed up, Arts and Crafts has 18 signed up, and Civic Groups 15 signed up. The numbers are down but some groups wait a little longer to sign up. Bruce is in the process of getting the alcohol permit. There is a band for Friday night. Bruce is meeting with the electrician and looking into putting in more permanent services at Mill Pond for future events. Bill has talked to sporting groups to

get more involved with supporting the Parks and Rec. Department. Little League may be doing a baseball throw booth at the Extravaganza and Eileen mentioned the swim club wants to do something to sponsor the Extravaganza also. Bruce will work with any of the organizations to see what they want to do.

Mill Pond Gazebo: The new Pavilion went up on June 5th. There is a punch list of items that need to be addressed and taken care of. Planning on painting it white, putting several outlets in and lighting in roof area. Bruce is hoping to have it done before the concert series. Once the Pavilion is totally completed there needs to be some kind of rededication for the Mandell family.

Mill Pond Exercise Equipment: People are using the equipment, great addition to the park. Still have to clean up around the equipment put in some edging and possibly a border.

Mill Pond Security Camera: Police Department is paying for half the cost of the other security camera to be installed. It will be set up so Bruce can see and keep better track of what is going on from his office. Camera is in a good location, close enough for face recognition.

Community Center: Meeting tonight. John is giving a presentation on the budget and how it will be paid for how it relates to capital improvement budget. The plan is to move on this tonight to the public hearing stage, which would be sometime in July and looking for a referendum in August. There is a link for the walk through visual tour of the Community Center is located on the website for the public to see. Bill suggested sharing the link with the sports organizations. Kathy and Don have met with soccer, little league and football organizations. Waiting to hear from soccer group what their needs and concerns are for the community center, haven't heard from them as of yet. Little League and Midget Football groups seem very positive and supportive. Kathy would also like to be in contact with the other community center programs ie: Art, Zumba, dance etc to let them know about the new community center and to find some support from those groups as well. Eileen suggested that Parks and Rec. have a booth at the Extravaganza to pass out information to the public regarding the new community center and answer any questions they may have.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Cemetery:

There is an expansion of an office and restroom facility going onto the Chapel. Also fixing drainage issues around the existing chapel, putting gutters on the roof, removal of some pine trees that need to come down, and a sewer line being hooked up to the chapel. Eileen also mentioned there are flyers around the cemetery that say no statuary at cemetery or they will be removed, Bruce mentioned there are certain things you can and cannot have at the cemetery and a periodic clean-up is done.

Churchill and Mill Pond Pools: The Parks and Rec Department received the AED's for the pools, they were presented at the last council meeting by the Ambulance people. Bruce will get cases for the AED's and training will be provided. Eileen asked if the pools were holding water adequately, Bruce said that 2 major valves were put in the pools, one in Churchill and one in Mill Pond. The pools will be cleaned and filled shortly and will see what happens in the coming months.

Fields: Bill DeBlasio mentioned there has been no major problem at the fields this season and thanked Bruce for keeping it in good shape.

Bruce mentioned there were issues with the irrigation and problems running to the heads at the Baseball Field and High School Fields that need to be fixed.

Ice Cream Vendors: Kathy asked if Kings Ice Cream was an approved Ice Cream Truck to come on the property. The contract has been signed with Nick Zindros. Kathy thinks Kings comes around the park too fast. Bruce looking into traffic flow at Lemeire try to slow cars down.

Ken Leggo is looking into a Motorcycle Night fundraiser, he is gathering information and speaking to members of the Harley Owners Group in the Hartford area, they would like to get involved and volunteer as well.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Bill DeBlasio to adjourn. Ken Leggo seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm with a 8-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Jay