



Board of Parks & Recreation
Meeting Minutes

May 25, 2016

Please be advised that these minutes are in DRAFT form and will not become "Public Record" until they are formally approved by the Board of Parks and Recreation at their next regularly scheduled meeting planned for June 29, 2016.

Board Attendees: Nancy Caplan, Hans Christian Thalheim, Scott Johnson, Patrick Slyne, Ric Loh, and John Hartwell

Staff Attendees: Joe Siciliano, Susan Snyder, Donald Mohr, Bruce Spaman and Tom Greco

Ex-Officio Attendees: None

Guest Attendees: Leslie Yager, Dean Gamanos, and Sue Baker

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Innis Arden Cottage.
- II. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson seconded by Mr. Hartwell to approve the Board Minutes from the April 27, 2016 meeting. 6-0-0
- III. Ms. Caplan opened the meeting with an announcement that Frank Cantelmo will no longer be serving as a member of the Board as he will be moving out of state. Ms. Caplan acknowledged Mr. Cantelmo's contributions as a member.

IV. Recreation Programs, Susan Snyder/Donald Mohr

Ms. Snyder highlighted the upcoming summer programs which include:

Cos Cob Preschool which was extended this year to include camp.

Summer Camps: Kamp Kairphree, Greenwich Summer Adventurers, Music & Art (moved to the gym-a-torium at Riverside School this summer) this site is not adequate for the needs of the program.

Summer Concert Series; The Silver Shield sponsored concert scheduled for July 30, has been cancelled.

Pickleball
Soccer
Sandblast

Ms. Snyder advised that the funds for the Skatepark re-design have been approved.

Mr. Mohr added that this year will be the 52nd annual Jim Fixx Memorial Day Race. The Fireworks will be held on Saturday, July 2 with a rain date of July 3.

Mr. Mohr further added that there has been positive feedback on the overall field conditions.

V. Director's Report

Mr. Siciliano reported that there was a dedication ceremony for the naming of Cos Cob Park Field; Emil "Benny" Benvenuto Memorial Field on May 18, 2016.

Mr. Siciliano advised that the RTM met on May 2. The Department's budget was cut by \$95,000 in the salary accounts. The Department is working to adapt to this cut. In addition, the Eastern

Civic Center, EGCC budget was reduced from \$520,000 to \$170,000. There is \$200,000 remaining in the EGCC account from last year, this totals \$370,000 for a 30% completion of plans. Once these plans are generated, it will be enough go to Planning and Zoning for a preliminary site plan review.

Mr. Siciliano reported that the Department is working on the logistics for the Memorial Day weekend; events include, the Greenwich Town Party, various memorial services, parades, road race and beach openings. Police coverage at Byram Beach and Greenwich Point will begin on Saturday.

Byram Beach will have food truck concession this summer. The previous concessionaire backed out of contract due to the pool closure. The Greenwich Point Concessions are due to open for the Memorial Day weekend, there are a few technical issues to work out at the Greenwich Point north concession.

Mr. Siciliano reported that the preliminary planting plan for Binney Park has been completed by Martha Lyon. Bruce Spaman is reviewing the plan and will meet with Martha to discuss. A follow up meeting with then be scheduled with the Sub-committee.

Mr. Siciliano stated that he will work with the EGCC Sub-committee to determine next steps for the plan. Talks will resume once, the height of the season is over.

VI. Chairman's Report, Nancy Caplan

Ms. Caplan inquired if there will be a cleanup of the High School Grounds before graduation. Mr. Siciliano replied that Cathy Weisenburger spearheaded the efforts last year.

Ms. Caplan stated that she will defer the discussion on the Plan of Conservation and Development until next month.

Mr. Siciliano advised that discussion on artificial turf at the middle schools will resume once, the height of the season is over.

Mr. Siciliano further added that there is an interest group that met with the Board of Health to discuss their concerns regarding the subject of artificial turf and infill options. Mr. Siciliano stated he attended the meeting and informed them of the organic turf program that is practiced by the department. The group would like for the program to be expanded into residential areas.

VII. Sub-Committee Reports- Beach Policy Sub-Committee

Mr. Slyne reported the committee met with a representative of the Police Department. The goal is to maximize the police presence and establish an understanding of responsibilities. Mr. Slyne advised there will be a follow up meeting on June 23 at 4:00p.m. to discuss how things are going.

VIII. Sub-Committee Reports-Golf

Mr. Loh reported that there is a Golf User Group Meeting scheduled for June 13 at 8:30 a.m. at the course.

IX. Harbor Management Commission-Scott Johnson

Mr. Johnson expressed his satisfaction with Lile Gibbons; she spent significant time going over comments. Mr. Johnson also stated that the Commission Chairman, Bruce Angiolillo is doing a good job. Ms. Baker added that the Harbor Management Report will not be ready until at least the fall. Ms. Baker further added that the current document is too long.

X. Nomination of Greenwich Point to the National Register-Scott Johnson

Mr. Johnson advised that an application was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Board to be considered for a nomination to the National Register of Historic places; this was done without knowledge from the relevant Town agencies. Mr. Johnson added that he spoke with Peter Tesei at length on the matter and that Mr. Tesei will discuss with the Town's Law Department. Upon extensive discussion; Mr. Johnson stated it is his opinion that Greenwich Point be part of the local historic district rather than the national register.

XI. Sub-Committee Reports- Field Sub-Committee

Mr. Hartwell announced that the Field Committee has a meeting scheduled for June 8 at 4:30 p.m.

XII. Unfinished Business - None

XIII. New Business

Mr. Siciliano reported he distributed some information to Board Members regarding the Zica virus and advised that the State Director of Health is working with Peter Tesei to form a task force to education the community.

XIV. Public Comments - None

XV. Meeting adjourned 8:03 p.m.