

Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Minutes - Thursday, March 24, 2011

The meeting was held at the Town Hall and called to order by Chairperson Tom Ragonese at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Chairperson Tom Ragonese, Dan Silbo, Carmelo Amoddio, John Rascius, Tom Pentalow and Kevin Rogers. Also present were Michael Hurley, Town Council Liaison and Kathleen Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation.

A. Public Comments – None.

B. Minutes – February 24, 2011.

Dan Silbo moved to approve the minutes of February 24, 2011. The motion was seconded by John Rascius and approved unanimously.

C. Monthly Report – February, 2011.

The Monthly Report was reviewed by Board members.

D. Letters and Announcements.

Ms. Bagley distributed an updated list of Board members. Chairperson Ragonese asked members to review the list and give Ms. Bagley any corrections. Ms. Bagley reported that Carmelo Amoddio has been moved from alternate to regular member and Mr. Peter Mozzicato was just appointed by the Town Council to the alternate position on the Board.

E. Old Business.

1. Cottone Field Fundraising Campaign.

Chairperson Ragonese reported that the bids were opened today for the sports lighting system at Cottone field. He asked Ms. Bagley to give an update on the bids. Ms. Bagley reported that the low bid is within the project budget. Town staff and the project engineer are evaluating the bids to make a recommendation for the Town Council to award the bid at their April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chairperson Ragonese noted that the fundraising campaign is still collecting donations, but have raised enough funds to pay for the lights.

2. Willard Pool Filters.

Chairperson Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley for a status report on the filter project. She reported that staff met with the contractor at the site today to set up the schedule for demolition of the old tanks and installation of the new ones. The plan is to begin demolition this week and install the new tanks in May. The project is scheduled to be completed by June 1.

F. New Business.

1. Spring Field Preparations.

Chairperson Ragonese discussed the spring field preparations with Board members. Ms. Bagley explained the department priorities in bringing the fields on line after the winter. First priority is the high school sports teams, then youth baseball, softball and soccer programs and adult softball. Board members discussed the condition of the Highcrest soccer field and baseball field. They noted that the soccer field is dirt and does not have a lot of grass, and the baseball field has water encroaching on the first base side from the woods. Ms. Bagley will have maintenance staff look into these concerns. Chairperson Ragonese asked if an outside maintenance firm was taking care of the Lighted Little League field. Ms. Bagley was not aware of an outside firm being called in this spring, but she will check with the Town Manager.

2. Summer Brochure.

Ms. Bagley reported that the summer brochure is being delayed because the School District may change the school calendar for this year. The department is waiting on the date for the last day of school, because it will impact the starting date of summer programs and the outdoor swimming pools.

3. Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

The Town Manager is preparing his budget for the Town Council and so far no changes were made to the Parks and Recreation Budget at this time.

4. Basketball Courts.

With the recent nice weather, the Parks and Recreation Department have received complaints on use of the basketball courts at Standish and Greenfield Park. Ms. Bagley reported that neighbors have complained of inappropriate language and trash at the courts. The Police Department has been notified. Parks and Recreation staff will monitor these concerns.

G. Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by Dan Silbo and seconded by Kevin Rogers to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director  
Parks & Recreation Department