

Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Minutes - Thursday, December 16, 2010

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

A. Public Comments.

None.

B. Minutes – November 18, 2010.

Dan Silbo moved to approve the minutes of November 18, 2010. The motion was seconded by Tom Pentalow and approved unanimously.

C. Monthly Report – November 2010.

The Monthly Report was reviewed by Board members. Chairperson Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley about the Town Carol Sing and Tree Lighting Ceremony. She reported that it was a successful event and Santa arrived right on time. Approximately 100 people attended this event. The numbers were less than last year because of the weather. Charlie Wood asked if the high school pool had been closed. Ms. Bagley reported that it was closed for a day because the pool chemicals needed to be adjusted.

D. Letters and Announcements - None.

E. Old Business.

1. Cottone Field Fundraising Campaign.

Chairperson Ragonese reported that the Cottone Lights Committee will be presenting their fundraising plan to the Town Council at their December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Town is getting a state grant of \$100,000 to help fund the lights. The remaining balance of \$16,000 will come out of the Cottone Rental Fund, with the Town Council's approval. The committee is encouraging all supporters of the lights to attend the Town Council meeting. With the state grant, the Cottone rental fund and the pledges from community organizations and individuals, there will be enough money to fund this project.

2. Harbor Management Commission.

The Town Manager is reviewing additional information prepared by staff. He will get back to Ms. Bagley if he has additional questions.

3. Condition of Highcrest Fields.

Dan Silbo discussed the field conditions at Highcrest. He noted that the fields are muddy and took a beating this season. Charlie Wood noted that the fields are overused, and in that part of town there is a lot of ledge. Ms. Bagley did speak with the maintenance staff about the condition of Highcrest fields. With the lack of rain and the use of these fields, there was no recovery time this fall. However, the maintenance staff did work on the fields in late fall and will oversee and aerate in the spring.

F. New Business.

1. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget.

Chairperson Ragonese discussed the CIP projects included in their packet. He reviewed the priority list with members. Chairperson Ragonese noted that many of the project requests have not changed, only their priority. Charlie Wood suggested moving the Cove Docks to priority #5. Committee members had no problem with this request. Tom Pentalow moved to approve the priority list for the Capital Improvement Projects for the upcoming budget year. The projects in order of priority were Willard Pool Filter Replacement, Mill Woods Little League Field Parking Lot, Mill Woods Park Beach Design, Mill Woods Beach Drainage Improvements, Cove Park Docks, Mill Woods Park Tennis Courts and Basketball Court Repair, Nature Center Generator Replacement, Community Center Renovation of Ladies Restroom, Mill Woods Park Bleacher Replacements at Softball Field #1 & 2, Mill Woods Softball Fields #3 & 4 Renovation, Solomon Welles House Parking Lot and Mill Woods Soccer Field Construction. The motion was seconded by Charlie Wood and approved unanimously.

G. Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by Charlie Wood and seconded by Carmelo Amoddio to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Motion was passed unanimously. Chairperson Ragonese wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director  
Parks & Recreation Department