

Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Harbor Management Commission
Minutes - Thursday, April 26, 2012

The meeting was held at Wethersfield Town Hall and called to order by Chairperson Tom Ragonese at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Chairperson Tom Ragonese, Richard Lepore, Peter Mozzicato, Tom Mull and Dan Silbo (arrived 7:20 pm.). Also present were Mike Hurley, Town Council Liaison and Kathleen Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation.

A. Public Comments.

None.

B. Minutes – March 22, 2012 and April 5, 2012.

Richard Lepore moved to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2012 monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Mull and approved unanimously.

Peter Mozzicato moved to approve the minutes of April 5, 2012 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Mull and approved unanimously.

C. Monthly Report – March 2012.

The Monthly Report was reviewed by Board members. Chairperson Ragonese asked about the Fishing Derby. The pond was stocked with 100 trout. Ms. Bagley reported that they had a successful event. The children caught some fish and prizes were given out. Children and adults continue to fish at the Pond to catch the rest of the trout.

D. Letters and Announcements.

1. Memorial Day Parade.

Chairperson Ragonese reviewed the flyer on the parade with Board members. The parade will be held on May 26, starting at 9:00 am.

E. Old Business.

1. Air Conditioning Unit for Gymnasium Project at 9/11 Memorial Sports Center.

Ms. Bagley stated that the air conditioning unit has been ordered and the work is scheduled for completion by June 1.

F. New Business.

1. Agenda Packet – Discussion on Emailing Packet to Members.

Chairperson Ragonese asked Board members their opinion on emailing the information packet for the Advisory Parks and Recreation Board meetings. Board members concurred that it was a good idea to send it out by email and save paper and mailing costs. They suggested that any event flyer can be brought to the meeting by the Parks and Recreation Director. Rich Lepore moved to have the agenda and attachments for each meeting mailed electronically to all members. The motion was seconded by Tom Mull and approved unanimously.

G. Board Member Comments.

1. Chairperson Ragonese notified members that the MDC is holding a town meeting on their Clean Water Project on April 30 at Town Hall Council Chambers from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. All interested individuals are welcome to attend. MDC representatives will be discussing the project as it relates to Wethersfield.
2. Peter Mozzicato mentioned that the Lighted Little League Field does not appear to be draining after it rains. Also, it did not look like the infield and warning track were rototilled for the beginning of the season. He felt this would help the drainage. Ms. Bagley will check into these issues with the maintenance staff.

3. Board members commented on how busy Mill Woods Park and other softball and baseball fields are this season. Everyone seemed to be enjoying the park facilities. Ms. Bagley mentioned that she received a call from a resident about closing the back road in Mill Woods Park that leads to the stone fireplace and the walkway entrance to the park from Meadowgate Road along the upper pond. This resident felt that cars were driving fast down the road, making it unsafe for pedestrians and also parking in the back and hanging out. Ms. Bagley explained to the resident that the Master Plan for Mill Woods Park calls for closing that section of the road to cars once the picnic area is completed, but not at this time. She will have staff check it out to determine if any action needs to be taken now.

H. Harbor Management Commission.

1. Harbor Management Plan Draft #5.

Chairperson Ragonese reported that the State is now reviewing Draft #5 and we are waiting for their input.

2. Status of Permit Process with State for Cove Docks & Boat Launch Ramp.

Ms. Bagley reported that the final application was submitted to the State on April 12. The consultant suggested a time frame of 3-6 months for review by the State.

3. Army Corp of Engineers – Entrance Channel Dredging Project.

Chairperson Ragonese reported the Army Corp has received permission from one landowner on the river to test their property for the possibility of placing the dredged material. The other landowner declined to have their property considered for the placement of the dredged material. The Army Corp will work on selecting a site for disposal of dredged material.

4. Harbormaster Report.

Harbormaster Charlie Forsdick sent his monthly report to the commission. Commission members reviewed his report.

5. Tom Mull discussed the past history of the Wethersfield Cove Yacht Club dispensing gasoline to boats. The Yacht Club does not do it now, but may consider it for the future.

6. Commission members discussed the type of communication used by the harbormaster and the police/fire for communications on the water. They talked about the town radios for communications and the marine radio.

I. Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by Richard Lepore and seconded by Tom Mull to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director
Parks & Recreation Department