

## **Stonington Recreation Commission Regular Meeting**

Monday, September 25, 2017 at 6:00PM  
Human Services Community Meeting Room

### Minutes

Present: Chairman C. Michael Crowley & Vice-Chair Frank Prachniak  
Commissioners Jennifer Norcross, Joe McKernan & Jeff Moore  
Human Services Director Leanne Theodore  
Stonington Community Center Representative Kelsey Haack

Absent: Commissioners Joe Ciriello and Larry Theadore

Chairman Michael Crowley called the meeting to order at 6:02PM

- I. Publics' Opportunity to address the Commission  
There were no public addresses.

#### II. Secretary's Report

Commissioner McKernan brought up an edit to the minutes from the June 26, 2017 meeting. On page four, in the fourth paragraph, the name Kevin Berube needs to be changed to Kevin Breault. Director Theodore stated that the change will be made. A motion was made by Vice-Chair Prachniak to approve the June 26, 2017 Stonington Recreation Committee Secretary's Report after the change is made. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moore, all in favor, motion approved.

#### III. Financial Report - Month ending August 2017 and 16/17 Year End Report

Director Theodore spoke on the Financial Report, both for the year end and Month ending in August. She stated that the revenue will be reflected differently in the next report, possibly a \$30,000 increase, due to paying of summer staff and final figures that will be received. A motion was made by Commissioner McKernan to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Norcross, all in favor, motion approved.

#### IV. Chairman's Report

Chairman Crowley stated that he is very pleased with the workmanship of the business repairing the tennis courts. He stated that he has seen them taking out the footings for the poles and the nets and re-cementing them. Chairman Crowley stated that he learned that once the nets are up, one must make sure to not over-tighten them because it will pull on the poles and cause stress cracks. Also, when the poles are taken out, the holes must be capped so water does not collect in them. Director Theodore brought up the concern that she wants to make sure the other

courts' net holes are marked as well as the center court. Chairman Crowley stated that he is sure that this will be done. Furthermore, Chairman Crowley stated that if there is any money left over in the Bond Fund, he would like to see a parking lot expansion around the tennis courts.

Chairman Crowley asked about the Spellman Park bathrooms. Director Theodore stated that Kevin Breault is currently scraping and painting. Chairman Crowley also spoke on the need for the light by the bathroom to be changed to a motion activated light because it runs all of the time.

Chairman Crowley asked about the overall lighting at Spellman Park. Commissioner Theodore stated that a representative from Lantern Energy is in the process of doing an overall assessment of all municipal buildings and facilities, to include Spellman Park. Grant funding may be available through the Bright Idea Energy Program to address needs at Spellman Park.

Chairman Crowley also brought up the subject of grubs on the Mystic Middle School field. He stated that he had spoken with Public Works Director Barbara McKrell. Chairman Crowley said that nothing can be done until Spring 2018 and their choices are limited due as chemicals cannot be used due to the age of the children at the school. Overall, in lieu of cutting out the sod and reseeding, there is not much else that can be done.

#### V. Old Business

Director Theodore spoke on the CIRMA Playground Assessment/Recommendations. Director Theodore and Administrator Ward met with Public Works Director McKrell and Tom Curioso to discuss what needs to be done. She said that the mulch and the boundaries need to be increased at Haley's Way. A paved area around the inside of the fence at Spellman Playground will also be added.

Commissioner McKernan wanted to know about the slide at Haley Park and Director Theodore confirmed that it had been addressed. She further stated that she has spoken with Old Mystic Fire Department Chief who reports residents using that park on a regular basis.

Chairman Crowley suggested that flyers be dropped off at local hotels advertising the locations of our parks and playgrounds.

Chairman Crowley requested an update on the Piver Cup and the money raised. He was assured by Director Theodore that this information would be available at the next meeting.

#### VI. New Business

Director Theodore spoke about the new restrictions being placed, per SHS Administrator's request to the Police Commission, on student parking during school hours (7am-

2pm) in the Multi-Purpose Field lot. Commissioner Moore stated that SHS had sent out a request asking that parents, instead, utilize that lot to pick their children up until 2:10pm, to give buses enough time to load the students and leave the school property first. Director Theodore reported safety issues in the Human Services lot at pick up time as many parents have been entering the exit lane and taking over the lot at 2pm, posing an issue for staff and clients accessing the Department.

Chairman Crowley brought up the issue of the port-a-jon in Stonington Borough. This summer, the port-a-jon was found full on several occasions. Chairman Crowley was concerned that it was not getting pumped on a regular basis. Director Theodore produced bills from EZ Waste, stating they were pumping it out twice a week. She further stated that the port-a-jon is an ADA accessible and that although the size inside is larger, the holding capacity is smaller. Chairman Crowley stated that the Village Improvement Association has historically always been responsible for the second port-a-jon and recommended that Human Services get in touch with them before next season.

Director Theodore stated that approximately 12 applications have been received for the Recreation Program Coordinator position. She and Administrator Ward will participate in the interview process, along with a representative from Administrative Services, in mid-October. Commissioner Crowley stated that he wanted someone from the Recreation Commission to be included in the interviewing process. Director Theodore referred Chairman Crowley to speak to the Director of Administrative Services in regards to the matter.

#### VII. Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Moore at 6:32 PM. Motion seconded by Commissioner McKernan, all in favor, motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

Notes:

Next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

  
C. Michael Crowley, Chairman