

PARK COMMISSION
JULY 13, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission was held at Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Robert Ferrigno (Presiding)
Louann Riccio

John Scippa
Joseph DeSabia

Also,
Park Superintendent Dmitri Paris
Recreation Director Mary Markham

Guests:
Jeff Topolski, 79 Stonehouse Road, Trumbull TRACK
Mike Mastroni, 9 Bear Den Road, Fallen Heroes Committee
Ken Martin, 51 Hilltop Drive, Trumbull Little League
Doug Imri, 32 Ridgeview Avenue, Trumbull Little League

As there was not a quorum, Chairman indicated all actions would be by consensus to be ratified at a future meeting.

Guests:

Jeff Topolski, Trumbull TRACK Vice President and Track Director:

Came to discuss their upcoming National Event, approved in January and scheduled for July 24, 25, and 26 at Indian Ledge Park. He indicated that they have had unexpected expenditures this year at the track wherein they have had to install a completely new electrical system. The old pole completely collapsed, bringing down wires. Town has installed a new pole. TRACK is covering the restoring of power to the facility. Because of this, they are asking consideration to have only one Ranger on duty through the night at their overnight event. Their costs involve bringing in Porta Johns and snack bar service for the event.

Chairman questioned other cost-savings they are instituting in addition to this request, stating that the town puts thousands and thousands of dollars into our park facilities and security is of utmost importance for an event bringing in perhaps 1,000 (400 riders) people over the course of the event.

Superintendent stated that they have discussed not utilizing the lower-level for parking campers, and having all campers at the upper-level ball field lot which would preclude having a Ranger stationed at the lower level with a back-and-forth routine which could reduce security measures somewhat.

Chairman asked that Mr. Topolski submit a financial review of last year's National event so that we will have a better understanding of what they are generating in costs and what they are contributing to the Trumbull park system.

Mike Mastroni, Fallen Heroes Committee:

Thanked Dmitri and the Park Board for allowing their use of Indian Ledge Park. He presented a beautiful commemorative plaque of this year's Fallen Heroes event. The event was most successful and they are looking forward to joining with the Trumbull Veterans again next year to host this beautiful tribute to those lost in serving our country again at Indian Ledge Park. They have already begun their plans for 2010, with a date of June 12, 2010 set.

Chairman complimented the Fallen Heroes Committee's efforts and their treating our park in a respectful and responsible way.

Ken Martin, 51 Hilltop Drive and Doug Imri, 32 Ridgeview Avenue on behalf of Trumbull Little League:

On behalf of the Little League 1989 World Champion Team, Trumbull Little League requests use of Unity Park Field 1 and surrounding area for their sponsored Reunion on August 8, 2009, from Noon to 5:00 p.m. Doug Imri stated that this event will be sponsored by Trumbull Little League. They expect perhaps 400/500 throughout the day. Maintenance and grounds security will be by Trumbull Little League. The Reunion Social will be scheduled prior to a Home-Run Derby on behalf of the Little League Challenger Team. This will be a not-for-profit event with donations channeled to the Challenger Team. They have a State of Connecticut non-profit permit and a Peoples Bank Account which will be audited at the end of the event.

Superintendent noted that on the Ranger side, they will clearly need to have rangers on duty for traffic and a presence.

Mr. Scippa noted that he thinks they will, in fact, have a good crowd in attendance. The 1989 Championship is certainly one of Trumbull's landmark moments and people will want to be there.

Chairman suggested they meet with Dmitri and the Rangers prior to event week to go over logistics and fine-tune their plans so safety and security concerns are addressed and resolved..

CONSENSUS of approval for Little League to host a Reunion of the Little League World Championship Team on August 8, 2009, from Noon to 5:00 p.m. at Unity Park Field 1 and surrounding area.

Correspondence:

Copy of letter from the First Selectman to the Fallen Heroes Event Committee indicating that this was one of the most impressive and touching memorial events he had ever attended and expressing appreciation for their many volunteer hours to prepare and make this celebration the success it was.

Email correspondence from the Fallen Heroes Committee thanking Dmitri Paris and the Parks Board as well as the VFW Post 10059 and American Legion Post 141 for the wonderful support given for the June 13th event at Indian Ledge Park..

Letter from Trumbull Little League President applauding the efforts of Park Superintendent Dmitri Paris following a lightning strike to Unity 1 sprinkler system prior to their June 27, 2009, Tournaments, cutting-off water supply to the main lavatories and concession stand . It would have been a disaster for the tournaments had our Superintendent not come to the park himself and work for several hours to get the problem solved and restore water to those areas.

A copy of this complimentary letter and that sent by the Fallen Heroes Committee will be added to the Superintendent's personnel file.

Copy of letter from Kenneth S. Halaby, 8 Shelton Terrace, LLC, concerning the Town's easement at 8 Shelton Terrace in need of repair referring to Schedule A, Number 12, of the contract with the Town of Trumbull for repairs to the easement at 8 Shelton Terrace.

Superintendent explained that general maintenance of the Town's greenbelts is designated to the Park Department; however, major repairs are referred to the Highway Department.

From First Selectman reviewing the general information on the Town annual concert at Indian Ledge Park, this year on Friday evening, August 21, 2009, with a performance by Hall and Oates. The event will go forward with much the same plan as in the past, with appropriate police (rangers), fire and emergency medical services presence. Public Works and Parks Department personnel will be available as required. Shuttle busses will be utilized from Trumbull High School to Indian Ledge Park as well as for Reserved Ticket Parking at the upper level compost area. As in the past, food vendors are being screened and scheduled by Ben DiMarco at Luigi's Bakery.

Trumbull TRACK request for reduction in Ranger requirements for their upcoming BMX National Tournament was discussed.

Consensus was that the facilities need to be properly protected through the over-nights in the park with two Rangers present.

Superintendent's Report:

- Reviewed repairs to Beach Pool, Wednesday, June 29th right prior to July 4th weekend. Water was bubbling up from pool apron indicating a break in the 70 foot line to the bulkhead. Five Park Department maintainers worked to repair the line and have the pool ready for opening on Friday opening. Recreation Department got flyers out to those scheduled for lessons diverting them to Tashua Pool. Unfortunately, at 10:00 a.m. morning of opening, feces was found in the pool and the pool was closed again for another full day. (Certificates of appreciation will be prepared for the Park Department maintenance workers involved in the repair project.)
- Indian Ledge drainage repair project has been stalled because of the extremely wet season. In order to accommodate the crowd expected for the August 21 scheduled Annual Town Concert, it will be necessary to back-fill the trench lines in order to stabilize the field. Following concert the project will be completed.
- Island Brook Vandalism continues. We have had disassembling to playground equipment. Will look into wireless camera equipment.
- Old Mine Restroom building back side completely covered with graffiti. Ordered a new product to attempt removal from bricks which absorb the paint.
- Island Brook and Indian Ledge Softball home plate holes fitted with Jox Boxes to prevent the digs.
- Sun Products meeting has been set for this coming Wednesday. Sun Products proposes donating equipment for a Tot Playground somewhere within the park system. Dmitri needs to have "municipal use correct" equipment. If equipment does not meet this standard, he will suggest a pocket park or another low-use location.

- Eagle Scout Projects were discussed because of the need to develop a policy on administering Eagle Projects. The problem we are experiencing with many projects is that responsibility is shifted to the town-side for direction, material and physical assistance. Superintendent would like to have the scout leaders assist the boys with developing projects and the follow-up needs. Superintendent will get a letter out to the Scout Troops in this regard.
- Madison field being completed now, in time for Fall season.
- Hillcrest field was damaged heavily with Trumbull Day event. Repair will involve remediation, extra labor which is out-of-scope of the Maintenance Contract. A review meeting is being planned.
- Board of Education Maintenance Contract Bid:
Bid was awarded to Sports Turf of Connecticut. A supplemental request to the Board of Finance will be required to cover the increase in contract. Director of Finance to place on next Board of Finance agenda.

Mr. DeSabia spoke on behalf of the American Legion Team indicated that the Board of Education is scheduling travel team tournaments without permit fees on the High School field. There is a concern to him because town teams are required to pay permit fees, and lining fields cost between \$50/\$75 per game. He felt the Park Commission should voice an opinion on the requirement for permit fees. Superintendent noted the contract is by bid specification. Chairman felt we should get a copy of the bid specifications to determine exactly what is expected of the field maintenance contractor. It was felt that Town funding covers the maintenance contract, and we should not be impacting the requirements of the contract for non-resident field use. The maintenance contract is administered by the Park Superintendent but schedule and usage is through the Board of Education. Chairman felt that because the Parks Department simply oversees the maintenance agreement, with the Board of Education doing the schedule and usage, etc., it may not be ours to question.

Consensus to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe
Clerical Administrative Asst.

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ACTIONS

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