



Incorporated 1787

Parks & Recreation Commission

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2011
7:30 P.M.**

**WESTON TOWN HALL
DAUGHERTY COMMISSION ROOM**

Eric Albert
Chairman
Committees:
Administrative,
Programs

Robert Uzenoff
Vice Chairman
Committee:
Administrative

Carl Bernstein
Commissioner
Committees:
Fields, Parks

Marc Butlein
Commissioner
Committee:
Programs

Vacant
Commissioner
Committee:

David Juneau
Commissioner
Committee:
Fields

Carlos Mello
Commissioner
Committee:
Aquatics

Official action of the commission in these minutes is indicated by underlining.

The Weston Parks and Recreation Commission (WPRC) held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 14, 2011 at Weston Town Hall. Commissioners present: Eric Albert, Carl Bernstein, Marc Butlein, David Juneau and Carlos Mello. Commissioner absent: Bob Uzenoff. Staff present: David Ungar. Public present: None.

- 1) Call to order: Mr. Albert called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the December 13, 2010 meeting were approved. For: Albert, Bernstein, Butlein, Juneau and Mello. Against: None.
- 3) Public Forum: None.
- 4) Unfinished Business
 - a) Review of Action Items Due from December 13, 2010 Meeting.
 - i) 2010-09 – The P&R 10-year capital plan was submitted as part of this year’s budget process. This Item is now closed.
 - ii) 2010-10 – Mr. Ungar will make sure the field usage policy is placed on the agenda of an upcoming Board of Selectmen’s meeting. This Item remains open.
 - iii) 2010-12 – The Commissioners discussed that at an upcoming meeting, decisions regarding admission fees for Bisceglie Pond will be considered, and the comparative data would be useful

for this discussion. Mr. Mello and Mr. Ungar will work further on this issue, with a specific focus on Bisceglie Pond. This Item remains open.

b) Other Unfinished Business.

i) Revson Field Repairs.

(1) Mr. Ungar reported that he is in the process of convening a meeting with First Selectman Weinstein, Tom Landry, Dan Clarke and members of WPRC to finalize the planning for the Revson project. The goal is to start the work shortly after July 4th, with the fields being out of use for the balance of the summer. In order to meet this timetable, Mr. Ungar indicated that contracts would need to be signed by June.

ii) Bisceglie-Scribner Park Fitness Trail.

(1) Weather has precluded the walk-through off the BSP fitness trail that Mr. Bernstein had planned to conduct with Mr. Ungar. They plan to do this when the snow clears and the trail becomes more walkable. Mr. Ungar reported that he walked the trail with members of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee and expects to hear back from them soon with their views. The Commission will further explore ways to try to make the BSP fitness trail more viable for seniors.

5) Reports of Standing Committees and Resulting Motions.

a) Administrative Committee (Messrs. Juneau and Albert).

i) Mr. Albert reported that he understands that the Democratic Town Committee is in the process of reviewing candidates to fill P.J. Dodge's vacant seat on the Commission and hopes that the seat will be filled soon.

b) Aquatics Committee (Mr. Mello).

i) Mr. Ungar reported that there were minor power issues at the Middle School Pool, but all have been resolved without any significant impact. Mr. Ungar further reported that the winter aquatics programs have been very heavily subscribed.

c) Fields Committee (Messrs. Bernstein and Juneau).

i) Mr. Ungar reported that the Town has been removing a lot of the snow from the school campus to the BSP parking lot. The Commissioners told Mr. Ungar that he should not hesitate to be in touch with the Town if the snow piles and snow melt cause any issues at the Park.

d) Programs Committee (Messrs. Albert and Butlein).

- i) Mr. Albert raised the issue of the cancellation of a recent Saturday morning basketball session, which was done on the preceding Friday. Mr. Ungar stated that the decision was made Friday afternoon in consultation with the police department and the public works department, and given the bad forecast for Saturday, safety was the primary concern. A make-up date has been scheduled.
- ii) Mr. Ungar reported that winter program participant numbers are very solid.
- e) Parks Committee (Mr. Bernstein).
 - i) No items to report.
- 6) New Business.
 - a) Department Head Operating and Capital Budget Review and First Selectwoman's Requested P&R Adjustments of January 4.
 - i) Mr. Ungar reported that the proposed P&R budget had been largely adopted by the First Selectwoman, with a few exceptions. First, part-time secretarial hours were reduced 59.7% (from \$1640 to \$661). Second, the training and professional development line item was reduced 44.3% (from \$2290 to \$1275). The most significant impact of this reduction is that Mr. Ungar will not be able to attend the annual national parks and recreation conference as he has done in prior years. The other reduction related to a \$7500 decrease in the budgeted amount for drinking water quality testing. Mr. Ungar said that state requirements still would be able to be met even at the lower budgeted amount.
 - b) Selectmen's Budget Hearing Preparation.
 - i) The Commission prepared for P&R's budget presentation at the Board of Selectmen's meeting of the same evening. The key issues that the Commission and Mr. Ungar expected to be discussed are resulting budget impact of the Board of Education's proposal to take over maintenance of the school campus fields and the capital budget request for a new tractor.
- 7) Correspondence: None.
- 8) Announcements, Remarks for the Good of the Order: None.
- 9) Adjournment: The Commission adjourned at 8:46 p.m., Butlein/Bernstein motion and second. All in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Albert

OPEN ACTION ITEMS

- 2010-09 Opened on 7/12/10. Mr. Mello and Mr. Ungar will schedule a meeting with the Town's Capital Planning Committee to discuss the P&R 10-year capital plan. The 10-year plan was submitted as part of the budget process. This Item is now closed.
- 2010-10 Opened on 8/9/10. Mr. Mello and Mr. Ungar will draft a field usage policy document for review by the full Commission. Mr. Ungar will make sure that the field usage policy is placed on the agenda of an upcoming Board of Selectmen's meeting. This Item remains open.
- 2010-12 Opened on 10/4/10. Mr. Mello will work with Mr. Ungar and the P&R staff to develop a framework to evaluate costs and revenues per participant, first for BSP Pond and then for other P&R-sponsored activities and amenities. This Item remains open.