

# TOWN of WESTON, CONNECTICUT



Incorporated 1787

## Parks & Recreation Commission

### REGULAR MEETING

#### MINUTES

MONDAY JULY 11, 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

Brian Collins  
Commissioner  
Committee:

Jed Ferdinand  
Secretary  
Committee:

David Juneau  
Commissioner  
Committee: Fields

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*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, July 11, 2011 at Weston Town Hall. Commissioners present: Chairman: Eric Albert, Carl Bernstein, Marc Butlein (arrived at 7:50 p.m.), Brian Collins, Jed Ferdinand, David Juneau and Bob Uzenoff. Staff present: David Ungar. Public present: Samantha Henry (TheDailyWeston.com).

- 1) Call to order: Mr. Albert called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the June 13, 2011 meeting were approved, subject to Mr. Uzenoff's request for additional information in certain defined areas to create a better and more complete record. For: Albert, Bernstein, Collins, Ferdinand, Juneau and Uzenoff. Against: None. Motion carried 6-0 (Mr. Butlein absent).
- 3) Public Forum.
  - a) None. No one from public appearing.
- 4) Unfinished Business
  - a) Review of Action Items Due from June 13, 2011 Meeting.
    - i) None.

- 30           b) Status Update of Revson Project:
- 31           i) Mr. Ungar provided the Commission with an oral report on the  
32           status of the project. The project is still on track to be  
33           completed over the summer.
- 34           ii) Bids for the project were opened last week. A total of three  
35           bids were received. The bids were reviewed by John Conte,  
36           Town Engineer, Mr. Ungar and Milone MacBroom. The low  
37           bidder on the project was Aquaturf, whose bid was significantly  
38           lower than the other two bids. Milone MacBroom was pleased.  
39           They have a favorable opinion of Aquaturf. It is the same  
40           company that renovated the infield at Bisceglie #1 last year with  
41           very positive results.
- 42           iii) Mr. Ungar did a site walk on Revson with members of the  
43           Town of Weston Conservation Commission on Saturday, July  
44           9, 2011. Four members of Commission attended the walk. The  
45           project faces a critical vote before the Conservation  
46           Commission on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 and, if approved, a  
47           subsequent vote before the Board of Selectmen.
- 48           iv) Mr. Ungar presented the Revson plans to the Commission and a  
49           detailed discussion ensued. Details of the project included the  
50           following: there will be a re-grading of right and center field on  
51           Revson Varsity. Currently, water flows towards the infield  
52           making play difficult after rain. The re-grading project is  
53           necessary because a one foot slope exists at present. The re-  
54           grading involves cutting and removal of existing material. Both  
55           the infield and outfield will be re-sodded. The field will be  
56           ready for play in the spring of 2012. They also plan to  
57           introduce sand for the outfield. There is a burm on the adjacent  
58           property (Collins). Sand will help to prevent water flow to the  
59           Collins property. All work can be done on budget.
- 60           v) The junior varsity field is in worse shape than the varsity field.  
61           The plan is to replace the infield and rebuild the pitcher's  
62           mound and batter's area. The plan is to maintain the current  
63           drainage.
- 64           vi) If the plan is approved by the Conservation Commission and the  
65           Board of Selectman and the contract is awarded, the hope is that  
66           the work can commence by late July or early August. The  
67           project is expected to be completed in 4 to 6 weeks. Mr. Ungar  
68           is very pleased about the project coming in on budget, and that  
69           all work can be completed in one phase.
- 70           vii) Question by Mr. Bernstein as to how the Commission still has  
71           jurisdiction over this project? Mr. Ungar stated that it is a work

- 72 in progress and he wants to see the project through to  
73 completion.
- 74 viii) Question by Mr. Albert whether the State of Connecticut  
75 must approve the project since they have provided partial  
76 funding? Mr. Ungar indicated that the State pays its portion  
77 when the project is finished and approved.
- 78 ix) Question by Mr. Butlein regarding the status of any continued  
79 opposition, as discussed at the June meeting of the  
80 Commission? Mr. Ungar recently attended an FOIA meeting  
81 on the project. Only two Town residents attended and there was  
82 nothing to report from the meeting.
- 83 c) 4<sup>th</sup> of July Recap:
- 84 i) Mr. Ungar presented the Commission with a spreadsheet  
85 detailing the financials for the Town's July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks event.  
86 The financials were complete except for one line item for the  
87 cost of extra-duty police. In total, gate receipts rose  
88 dramatically over prior years. Mr. Ungar believes that more  
89 people came and attendance was helped by a standard \$ 5 per  
90 person charge. Total gate receipts were \$13,272.00. The  
91 sponsorship participation was lower this year, as Fairfield  
92 County Bank paid only \$5,000, down from \$13,500 last year.  
93 After taking into account the invoice for extra duty police  
94 (estimated to be \$1,000), the Town was likely to be in the red  
95 for approximately \$8,500 for the event.
- 96 ii) Mr. Butlein attended the July 4<sup>th</sup> event (as did several others)  
97 and reported that the event was well organized and well run.
- 98 iii) Mr. Ungar reported that by July 5<sup>th</sup> the field was clean. The  
99 crew performed its job well. They also spent one day picking  
100 up shell casings from an adjacent property (Collins). Mr. Ungar  
101 gave the property owner prior notice and there were no  
102 complaints.
- 103 d) Other Unfinished Business.
- 104 i) RecTrack. Mr. Ungar reported that the staff had its first day of  
105 training at the Board of Education training room. The training  
106 and programming will continue and the hope is to have the  
107 program live for fall registration. The expectation is that it will  
108 link from a Town web site. The Commission discussed  
109 possible publicity for the program, including a story in the  
110 Weston Forum and web notification.
- 111 ii) Bisceglie Field #2: Mr. Ungar discussed that Bisceglie #2 is set  
112 to be renovated this year. Last year's contract for Bisceglie #1  
113 went to Aquaturf. They were the low bidder by a wide margin.  
114 Initial consideration was given to offering them the project for

- 115 Bisceglie #2, but there is a concern about their ability to  
116 complete Revson in a timely manner if another project is  
117 offered. Other bids will likely be sought. Joe Cina from  
118 Weston Little League is monitoring the situation and being kept  
119 in loop.
- 120 iii) New Outdoor Batting Cage: Mr. Ungar reported that Weston  
121 Little League received approval from the Board of Selectmen to  
122 construct a new batting cage between Bisceglie Fields #2 and  
123 #3. Mr. Ungar will monitor the progress of the construction.
- 124 iv) Fitness trail. Mr. Ungar reported that the project is proceeding  
125 according to plan. Mike D'Mattio will start the work shortly.  
126 The Weston Park Project donated its remaining funds. Mr.  
127 Ungar hopes that the project will be completed by the end of  
128 August.
- 129 5) Reports of Standing Committees and Resulting Motions.
- 130 a) Administrative Committee (Messrs. Albert and Uzenoff).
- 131 i) The appointment of Jed Ferdinand as Secretary of the  
132 Commission is confirmed.
- 133 b) Aquatics Committee.
- 134 i) Bisceglie Pond. Mr. Ungar provided a report on Bisceglie Pond  
135 from June 25 through July 10. The first week had average  
136 attendance of approximately 65 people per day. The highest  
137 was 85 people. Attendance was lower during the week of July  
138 3- 10. The average was closer to 40 per day. More adults are  
139 visiting the Pond this summer. The busiest time is after 3:00  
140 p.m. All three Town camps are using the pond. The overall  
141 attendance is similar to last year, and still higher than in prior  
142 years. The Pond is well maintained and fully staffed.
- 143 c) Fields Committee (Messrs. Bernstein and Juneau).
- 144 i) The conditions of the fields are excellent. Morehouse Farm  
145 Park #5 will be re-sodded. Parks & Recreation still has the  
146 responsibility to open and close the gate to MFP each day. Mr.  
147 Ungar will close the gate on his way home and arrangements  
148 will be made to open the gate each morning. The fields at the  
149 Bisceglie complex are in great shape.
- 150 d) Programs Committee (Mr. Butlein).
- 151 i) The Town summer camps have been very successful. The  
152 camps are at maximum attendance.
- 153 e) Parks Committee (Messrs. Bernstein and Butlein).
- 154 i) Mr. Ungar reported that the Town parks are all in good shape.

155 6) New Business.

156 i) Insurance for Weston Basketball Assn. For the past 15 years,  
157 the Weston Basketball Association has been insured under the  
158 Town's umbrella policy. This was an accommodation made to  
159 that association back when they first started. The WBA pays \$5  
160 per member to the Town to cover the insurance. There is now  
161 consideration being given to asking them to obtain their own  
162 insurance, to address any concern that the WBA is being treated  
163 any differently (or better) than any other Town organization.

164 ii) There was a discussion about establishing a policy for all  
165 private leagues to obtain insurance separate from the Town.  
166 Apparently the WBA can obtain separate insurance at a cost on  
167 a per member basis that is similar to what they pay to the Town.

168 iii) Mr. Uzenoff suggested that the Commission consider and  
169 review the list of all organizations that are sponsored or covered  
170 by Town insurance in this manner. This will be put as an action  
171 item for the next meeting.

172 b) New Maintenance Contract. The new contract was effective as of  
173 July 1, 2011. Mr. Ungar reported that all fields appear to be in  
174 good shape -- everything is cut and edged neatly. Mr. Ungar  
175 reported that the company has even gone beyond their obligations  
176 under the contract and performed additional work at no charge.

177 7) Correspondence.

178 i) None

179 8) Announcements, Remarks for the Good of the Order.

180 i) The annual meeting of the Sports Commission will be on  
181 Tuesday, July 12, 2011. The Commission has two votes.  
182 Messrs. Bernstein and Albert will attend.

183 9) Adjournment: The Commission adjourned at 9:05 p.m., Juneau/  
184 Bernstein motion and second. All in favor 7-0.

185 Respectfully Submitted,

186 Jed Ferdinand

187 Secretary

