

TOWN of WESTON, CONNECTICUT



Incorporated 1787

Parks & Recreation Commission

REGULAR MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

MONDAY MARCH 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

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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, March 14, 2011 at Weston Town Hall. Commissioners present: Eric Albert, Carl Bernstein, Marc Butlein, David Juneau and Bob Uzenoff. Commissioner absent: Carlos Mello. Staff present: David Ungar. Public present: Joe Cina and Mike DeMattio (Weston Little League); Jed Ferdinand.

- 1) Call to order: Mr. Albert called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the February 14, 2011 meeting were approved. For: Albert, Bernstein, Butlein and Juneau. Against: None. Abstain: Uzenoff.
- 3) Public Forum: See Item 6(a) below.
- 4) Unfinished Business
 - a) Review of Action Items Due from December 13, 2010 Meeting.
 - i) 2010-10 – Mr. Albert stated that he, Mr. Mello and Mr. Ungar attended a recent meeting of the Board of Selectmen at which the Selectmen reviewed P&R’s draft natural turf field usage policy. The Selectmen were impressed with the document and unanimously voted to approve and adopt it with a few very minor edits. Mr. Ungar will communicate with the Board of Education facilities subcommittee regarding the adoption of the policy. This Item is now closed.

- 32 ii) 2010-12 – Mr. Ungar prepared a three-year cost per participant
33 analysis of Bisceglie-Scribner Pond (BSP) for 2008-2010,
34 which showed that usage sharply decreased in 2010, when a
35 usage fee was adopted. Attendance was much higher in 2008
36 and 2009 when there was no pond usage fee. The Commission
37 will further consider the BSP usage fee issue for Summer 2011
38 at the April WPRC meeting.
- 39 b) Other Unfinished Business: None.
- 40 5) Reports of Standing Committees and Resulting Motions.
- 41 a) Administrative Committee (Messrs. Albert and Uzenoff).
- 42 i) Mr. Albert indicated that due to a potential scheduling conflict,
43 he may request that the regular April meeting be changed from
44 April 11 to a different day that week. He will let the
45 Commissioners know by late March.
- 46 ii) Mr. Albert stated that he recently attended the Weston Speak-
47 Up on WPRC's behalf and indicated that it was an informative
48 program, although there were no questions asked regarding
49 P&R issues.
- 50 b) Aquatics Committee (Mr. Mello).
- 51 i) Mr. Ungar reported that registration for spring aquatics
52 programs was positive.
- 53 c) Fields Committee (Messrs. Bernstein and Juneau).
- 54 i) Mr. Ungar reported that the Revson and Bisceglie baseball
55 fields appear to be in decent shape given the heavy precipitation
56 this winter. Work will soon be underway to get the fields ready
57 for the spring season.
- 58 ii) Mr. Juneau reported that he received an inquiry from Clement
59 Butt of the Sustainability Committee regarding whether there
60 were drinking fountains at the town ballfields. The answer is
61 no.
- 62 d) Programs Committee (Messrs. Albert and Butlein).
- 63 i) Mr. Ungar reported that registration numbers for spring
64 programs were good, especially the sports & fitness program at
65 the elementary school.
- 66 e) Parks Committee (Mr. Bernstein).
- 67 i) Mr. Ungar reported that Morehouse Farm Park held up well
68 given the harsh winter. The target is to have the grass fields
69 prepared and ready for play during the first week of April,
70 depending on the weather between now and then.
- 71 6) New Business.

- 72 a) Weston Little League Request for Construction of Equipment
73 Storage Shed and Backstop Netting at BSP.
- 74 i) Joe Cina and Mike DeMattio appeared at the meeting on behalf
75 of Weston Little League (WLL) to request WPRC's approval
76 for the construction of an equipment storage shed between
77 Bisceglie 2 and Bisceglie 3 as well as an extended backstop
78 netting at Bisceglie 2. Mr. Albert explained that he, Mr. Butlein
79 and Mr. Uzenoff had met with Messrs. Cina and DeMattio the
80 previous Saturday at Bisceglie, at which time the proposed
81 location of the shed was shown and the specifications were
82 described. Mr. Albert stated that he, Mr. Butlein and Mr.
83 Uzenoff were supportive of the proposal based on this walk
84 through.
- 85 ii) Mr. Cina stated that WLL intended to construct a 10'x16' shed
86 to house field maintenance supplies and equipment. The small
87 shed near Bisceglie 1 and the dugout closets at Bisceglie 2 and
88 Bisceglie 3 can no longer house all the baseball and field
89 maintenance equipment. WLL would pay for the full costs of
90 the shed and would not look for any financing from the Town.
91 The style of the shed would be similar to the storage shed that
92 Mr. DeMattio previously constructed at Revson. The shed
93 would be constructed off-site and dropped into the Bisceglie
94 location. It would be placed on blocks; there would be no
95 excavation.
- 96 iii) Mr. Ungar stated that WLL also would need to speak with and
97 get approval from the Town building inspector and conservation
98 planner. Mr. DeMattio agreed to do so promptly.
- 99 iv) Mr. Uzenoff stated that because WLL was proposing a gift to
100 the Town, approval is in the hands of the Board of Selectmen.
101 WPRC only can provide its endorsement; it cannot provide full
102 approval. The Commission then discussed whether WLL had
103 provided sufficient project details or whether, before a vote
104 should be taken, WLL should provide a more detailed written
105 description of the project.
- 106 v) Mr. Bernstein moved that WPRC recommend that the Town
107 accept the gift of a storage shed as proposed by Weston Little
108 League subject to receipt by the Chairman from WLL of a
109 written project description that is materially similar to that
110 described at tonight's meeting. Seconded by Mr. Butlein. For:
111 Albert, Bernstein, Butlein and Juneau. Against: Uzenoff.
112 Motion passes 4-1.
- 113 vi) Mr. Cina agreed that he would provide Mr. Albert with the
114 requested written description plus photos in the next few days.

- 115 vii) With regard to the extended backstop netting, Mr. Cina stated
116 that WLL wanted to add a similar extension to Bisceglie 2 as
117 they have at Bisceglie 1. This would prevent more foul balls
118 from going over the backstop into the surrounding woods. Mr.
119 Ungar agreed that this was a good idea. The Commission also
120 supported the idea and asked Mr. Ungar to handle this
121 administratively.
- 122 b) Report on Selectmen's Budget Hearing & Board of Finance Budget
123 Hearing.
- 124 i) Mr. Albert and Mr. Ungar attended the BoF's budget hearing,
125 where two main P&R-related issues were discussed. First, the
126 BoF asked whether P&R supported the BOE's proposed change
127 for school campus fields maintenance. Mr. Albert and Mr.
128 Ungar explained that P&R did support this. Second, the BoF
129 inquired about the necessity for the P&R capital budget request
130 of a new tractor. Mr. Ungar stressed that P&R's tractor was
131 very old and completely non-operational, and showed photos to
132 the BoF. He explained the importance of getting the new
133 tractor and urged the BoF not to cut this item from the capital
134 budget.
- 135 7) Correspondence: None.
- 136 8) Announcements, Remarks for the Good of the Order: None.
- 137 9) Adjournment: The Commission adjourned at 8:51 p.m., Juneau/
138 Butlein motion and second. All in favor 5-0.
- 139
- 140 Respectfully Submitted,
- 141 Eric Albert

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OPEN ACTION ITEMS

- 2010-10 Opened on 8/9/10. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved and adopted the natural turf field usage policy. This Item is now closed.
- 2010-12 Opened on 10/4/10. Mr. Ungar prepared a three-year cost per participant report for Bisceglie-Scribner Pond. This Item remains open.

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