

TOWN of WESTON, CONNECTICUT



Incorporated 1787

Parks & Recreation Commission

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2012

7:45 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:
Aquatics

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, April 9, 2012 at Weston Town Hall. Commissioners present: Eric Albert (Chairman), Carl Bernstein, Marc Butlein, Brian Collins, Jed Ferdinand, Bob Uzenoff, David Juneau. Commissioners absent: none. Public Present: Joe Cina and Nathan Klatt.

- 1) Call to order: Mr. Albert called the meeting to order at 7:48 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the March 12, 2012 meeting were approved subject to minor modifications. For: Albert, Ferdinand, Butlein, Bernstein, Collins Juneau and Uzenoff. Against: None. Motion carried 7-0.
- 3) Public Forum.
 - a) Weston Little League. Nathan Klatt and Joe Cina appeared on behalf of WLL to address three issues.

(1) Nathan Klatt submitted a letter addressing WLL's desire to raise additional revenues through banners and signs along the outfield walls at the Bisceglie fields. Mr. Klatt said it would give local businesses an opportunity to invest new funds in a different way. The banners and signs would also make it look more like a real ballpark. Other towns are already doing it successfully. Several commissioners expressed a desire for control over the size, shape and

32 location of the signs and banners. There was consideration
33 given for WLL to move forward on a trial basis for one
34 year, and then WLL would come back to the Commission
35 next year to re-assess. The Commission would give WLL
36 the framework for a coordinated color scheme.
37 Commissioner Butlein stated that there must be an approval
38 document in order to address other groups who may come
39 before the Commission in the future. Several
40 commissioners also expressed a desire for greater
41 transparency over WLL finances and how the additional
42 revenues would be spent. Joe Cina indicated that WLL will
43 file a financial statement with the Town, but at the same
44 time doesn't want restrictions on how the new revenue can
45 be spent. WLL intends to use the new revenues for re-
46 investment in WLL, player development and field upgrades
47 and maintenance. WLL will submit a written proposal and
48 the Commission will consider this issue further at the May
49 meeting.

50 (2) WLL wants to construct a new batting cage next to
51 Bisceglie field #3. The cost will total \$15,000 to \$18,000,
52 and WLL will pay for the entire cost. WLL must submit a
53 proposal to the Board of Selectmen. Commissioner Uzenoff
54 recommended that WLL submit written plans and that the
55 Commission conduct a site visit. Commissioner Ferdinand
56 suggested that while the desire for greater documentation
57 was appropriate in most cases, this new cage would be
58 identical to the two existing cages at Bisceglie and the
59 commissioners are already very familiar with the layout of
60 the Bisceglie complex. Motion: Approving WLL to
61 construct a new batting cage adjacent to Bisceglie #3,
62 subject to the Board of Selectmen's approval of the gift and
63 WLL sending the Commission a written proposal
64 acknowledging the gift. Albert/Butlein Motion and Second.
65 For: Albert, Ferdinand, Butlein, Bernstein, Collins and
66 Juneau. Against: Uzenoff (because of the desire for
67 documentation and a site visit). Motion carried 6-1.

68 (3) There was a brief discussion about the "Bisceglie Under the
69 Stars" event to be held on June 16, 2012. WLL plans to
70 have the event on Bisceglie #3 because Bisceglie #2 was
71 recently redone and is in pristine condition.

72 4) Unfinished Business

73 a) Review of Action Items: None.

74 b) 2012-13 ABTM Operating and Capital Budget Meeting. Mr. Ungar
75 reported that the Capital Budget was approved without change at

- 76 the April 4, 2012 meeting. The Operating Budget will be up for
77 consideration at the upcoming Town vote.
- 78 c) Revson Field: Mr. Ungar reported that the junior varsity field is
79 now playable because school personnel worked very hard to bring it
80 into shape, including constructing additional fencing and makeshift
81 dugouts. The varsity field is getting closer to completion. The
82 infield is complete and the outfield sod is 75% installed. The plan
83 is for the final sod to be installed tomorrow. They are getting down
84 to punch list items. Mr. Ungar is cautiously optimistic that the field
85 might be playable in May. It will be a joint decision with Board of
86 Ed to determine when to commence playing on the varsity field.
- 87 d) Update Financial Reporting: The Commission continued to address
88 the issue of better financial reporting, which everyone agrees is in
89 order. Mr. Ungar stated that the plan is to use the Rec-Trac
90 program for financial reporting. Several P&R staff members
91 attended a Rec-Trac user's meeting to learn about how Rec-Trac
92 can be used for financial reporting. July 1st is the target date to
93 have all financial data run through Rec-Trac. P&R is beginning to
94 enter all summer programs into the system. There was a discussion
95 about the format and output of the reports, e.g., monthly reports, by
96 program or seasonal. All agreed that income and expenditures must
97 be listed. Commissioner Collins stated that the Commission should
98 be more actively involved prospectively to review pricing,
99 registration and expectations for the programs. Commissioner
100 Butlein reiterated his belief that P&R must look to historical data to
101 compile a profit and loss statement, and then use the data as a
102 forecast for the following year. Commissioner Albert also asked
103 for a forward-looking, fiscal year forecast. Mr. Ungar was asked to
104 compile forecasts on a program basis for next year.
- 105 e) Adult and Senior Programming: Mr. Ungar and Commissioner
106 Bernstein visited possible locations in Hurlbutt and Weston Middle
107 School. Hurlbutt has a large space, an all-purpose room in South
108 House, that would be perfect for an adult/senior center. It has its
109 own entrance and bathrooms. The only construction would be a
110 door to close off the room from Hurlbutt. The Board of Education
111 will have to decide whether or not to release the space.
112 Commissioner Bernstein will be on the Facilities Sub-Committee.
113 P&R is working on getting new adult and senior programs started
114 as early as May. Norfield Church is one possibility because it has a
115 large kitchen. Ideas include cooking and cake decorating classes.
- 116 f) Other Unfinished business:
- 117 (1) Mr. Ungar sent a note to John Allen, the individual who had
118 wanted to contribute a bench to Keene Park. Mr. Allen has

- 119 not responded. Mr. Ungar will take no further action until
120 Mr. Allen responds.
- 121 (2) An Eagle Scout wants to do a cleanup project at Keene
122 Park. The plan is to erect a mesh fence to delineate the
123 wetlands, place a new sign at the roadway and put wood
124 chips on the pathways. This matter will be handled
125 administratively.
- 126 (3) The Commission is still hoping to find an alternative
127 location for July 4th fireworks. The Board of Education is
128 starting the window project the day after school ends. The
129 Middle School parking lot will be entirely off limits during
130 that time. The Commission asked Mr. Ungar to consider all
131 other possible options.
- 132 5) Report of standing committees and resulting motions:
- 133 a) Administrative Committee: Commissioner Uzenoff requested to
134 have all new business presented to the Commission in writing in
135 advance of each monthly meeting.
- 136 b) Aquatics Committee: The Capital Budget passed, so all pool
137 improvements will be done in 2012-2013.
- 138 c) Fields Committee: Mr. Ungar is satisfied with the condition of the
139 fields at this time.
- 140 d) Programs Committee: Summer camp information is public.
141 Registration will commence in two weeks.
- 142 e) Parks Committee: Mr. Ungar is satisfied with the condition of the
143 parks at this time.
- 144 6) New Business:
- 145 a) Weston Youth Football: Weston Youth Football will start in the
146 fall of 2012. P&R received an email stating that some youth
147 football players will remain with Aspetuck, and that Aspetuck
148 requests to use the football field on four Sundays during the fall.
149 The Commission indicated that Aspetuck should show us
150 enrollment figures to confirm that Weston kids will still play. If so,
151 the Commission will look to accommodate both leagues.
- 152 7) Correspondence: P&R received an email from a group of Middle
153 School parents asking to have dedicated time on the Town tennis courts
154 on Saturdays for a new program for Middle School aged children. The
155 parents' goal is to have the kids play tennis. They are not asking for
156 money. The Commission was favorably inclined because it was a
157 laudatory goal and would not interfere with any existing program. The
158 Commission asked Mr. Ungar to handle administratively.
- 159 8) Announcements: None.

- 160 9) Adjournment: The Commission adjourned at 10:26 p.m., Butlein/
161 Uzenoff motion and second. All in favor 7-0.
- 162 Respectfully Submitted,
163 Jed Ferdinand, Secretary

