



Incorporated 1787

Parks & Recreation Commission

**REGULAR MEETING  
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

*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.

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

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Albert

## 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.