

# TOWN of WESTON, CONNECTICUT



Incorporated 1787

Parks & Recreation Commission

MINUTES  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2009  
7:30 P.M.

WESTON TOWN HALL  
COMMISSION ROOM

David C. Juneau  
*Chairman*

Committees:  
Administrative,  
Fields

Carlos Mello  
*Vice chairman*  
Committee:  
Aquatics

Nancy Babyak  
*Commissioner*  
Committee:  
Programs

Marc Butlein  
*Commissioner*  
Committee:  
Programs

Carl Bernstein  
*Commissioner*  
Committees:  
Fields, Parks

Patrick E. Kane  
*Commissioner*  
Committee:  
Aquatics

Robert A. Uzenoff  
*Commissioner*  
Committee:  
Administrative

The Weston Parks and Recreation Commission ("WPRC") held its regular monthly meeting on February 9, 2009 on in the Daugherty Commission Room in town hall. Commissioners present: Nancy Babyak, Carl Bernstein, Marc Butlein, Chairman David Juneau, and Carlos Mello. Commissioners absent: Pat Kane and Bob Uzenoff. Staff present: Weston Parks and Recreation Director David Ungar.

Official actions of the commission are indicated in these minutes by underlining.

- 1) Call to order: A quorum being present, Mr. Juneau called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m.
- 2) Public forum: no person presented for the public forum.
- 3) Unfinished Business
  - a) Action item review. Refer to the action items list beginning on page 5 for details.
    - i) 2008-25 Mr. Juneau reported Superintendent of Schools Jerry Belair had called him. Then, at Mr. Belair's behest, Athletic Director Mark Berkowitz followed up with a letter to Mr. Juneau addressing WPRC's concerns about portable lighting on the stadium field. The letter is attached to these minutes. The meeting designated this action item as now closed.
    - ii) 2009-04 Mr. Bernstein presented a letter, which Mr. Juneau read aloud to the commission, stating WPRC's refusal to engage in fund raising activities on behalf of sports clubs, in particular, Weston Soccer Club. Motion by Mr. Butlein, seconded by Mr. Mello to approve the wording of the draft

document. Unanimously approved (Butlein, Mello, Babyak, Bernstein, Juneau). Mr. Juneau will type the letter and send it to WSC. This item is ongoing.

iii) 2009-05 Mr. Ungar forwarded report of Agronomist Dr. Dest to Director of Finance and Operations Joanne Keating, and Director of Facilities Dan Clark. The meeting designated this action item as now closed.

b) Other Unfinished Business

Mr. Ungar reported on Selectmen's budget meeting of 02-03-2009. Mr. Ungar also reported that at a 02-09-2009 meeting with First Selectman Bliss, he was asked to voluntarily forego his cost-of-living increase and his 'step increase' for the 2009-2010 budget. Mr. Butlein will call Mr. Bliss about this; Mr. Bernstein will call Selectman Weinstein about same.

4) Reports of standing committees and resulting motions:

a) Administrative Committee

i) See report in Unfinished Business above.

b) Aquatics Committee (Messrs. Kane, Mello) - no report

c) Fields Committee (Messrs. Juneau, Bernstein)

i) Mr. Ungar reported spring field scheduling meeting to occur on 02-11-2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Commission Room (editor's note: meeting was subsequently changed to Parks and Recreation Department office at same time).

d) Programs Committee (Mrs. Babyak and Mr. Butlein)

i) After school skiing/snowboarding for grades 6-8: 8<sup>th</sup> grade bus broke down last week. Make-up trip will be given to 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Ms. Babyak remarked on what a terrific job she observed Parks and Recreation employee Lynn Stevens doing on these trips, saying that Ms. Stevens was able to play 'mom' to a wide range of students and that it was evident that Ms. Stevens truly cared about the safety of the students and that she showed great leadership on these trips.

ii) Games Gallery for K-5 is back and had small registration

e) Parks Committee (Mr. Bernstein) - no report

5) New Business

a) League of Women Voters 'Speak-Up' of 02-07-2009: Mr. Bernstein reported no questions for Parks and Recreation at this event; questions about BoS and BoE budgets dominated the forum.

b) Communications Tower at Morehouse Farm Park: The commission discussed an overture from AT&T to explore placing a tower at

MFP. After discussion, Mr. Bernstein made a motion, seconded by Mr. Butlein to invite AT&T to the March regular meeting of the WPRC to discuss the viability of a cell tower and its impact at Morehouse Farm Park. Unanimously approved (Bernstein, Butlein, Babyak, Juneau, Mello).

- 6) Correspondence
  - a) Mark Berkowitz letter to David Juneau
  - b) John Clevenger of Little League contacted Mr. Juneau about installing a flagpole at BSP. Mr. Juneau referred Mr. Clevenger to Mr. Ungar to explore this concept.
  - c) Mr. Juneau communicated (via email) WPRC's refusal to have Little League place a sandwich board sign at the entrance to BSP. Encouraged LL to utilize Onion Barn and entrance to School Road instead.
  - d) Commissioner Pat Kane communicated by email to Mr. Juneau his wish to join the commission for a meeting, upon his return from Florida, to celebrate his many years of service on WPRC.
  - e) Announcements, remarks for the good of the order
    - i) Mr. Juneau thanked Mr. Bernstein for attending the LWV Speak-Up on behalf of WPRC.
- 7) The commission adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Juneau

Attachment: Letter from Athletic Director Mark Berkowitz to David  
Juneau

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ACTION ITEMS

2008-25 Messrs. Mello and Juneau will write the Superintendent of Schools, copying the Chair of the Board of Education, expressing the Commissions' displeasure that the high school athletic director permitted the Aspetuck Wildcats to install temporary lighting on the stadium field, and that the installation did not meet the WPRC expectation and understanding that it would conform to the artificial turf manufacturer's specifications.

Update of 01-21-2009: The sense of the meeting was that WPRC wants a written response from the school explaining why WPRC should not be concerned that yet another repeat of this situation will occur. Mr. Juneau will follow-up.

Update of 02-09-2009: Mr. Juneau received a phone call from Superintendent Belair and a follow-up letter from Athletic Director Berkowitz promising the Schools' approach would be diligent and thorough going forward. Letter attached to minutes. Closed 02-09-2009.

2009-01 Opened 01-05-2009 Mr. Butlein will discuss the WSC situation with the first selectman. Accepted 01-05-2009. Closed 01-21-2009.

2009-02 Opened 01-05-2009 Mr. Bernstein will discuss the WSC situation with the Board of Finance chair, Mr. O'Brien. Closed 01-21-2009.

2009-03 Opened 01-05-2009 Mr. Juneau will discuss the WSC situation with Board of Finance member Mr. Sargent. Closed 01-21-2009.

2009-04 Opened 01-21-2009 Mr. Bernstein accepted the action item to draft a letter informing WSC that WPRC will not participate in a "... committee to explore revenue development." Mr. Bernstein will present the draft for commission approval at its February meeting.

Update of 02-09-2009. Mr. Bernstein presented draft, which was approved by the Commission (see motion in minutes). Mr. Juneau will type up the letter and send it to Philip Shaner.

2009-05 Opened 01-21-2009 Mr. Ungar will supply copies of agronomist/soil scientist Dr. William Dest's summary of his commissioned examination and assessment of the playing surface conditions at Morehouse Farm Park, Bisceglie Scribner Park, Revson Field, Middle School Field, Field Hockey, North House Field and South House Fields on his visit of August 19,2008 to BoE Director of Finance and Operations and Director of Facilities.

Update of 02-09-2009 Mr. Ungar has forwarded the report to Director of Finance and Operations Joanne Keating, and Director of Facilities Dan

Clark. Closed 02-09-2009

- 2 Electronic file name: 2009-02-09 WPRC Draft Minutes.doc