



Incorporated 1787

Parks & Recreation Commission

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**REGULAR MEETING**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2014**  
**7:45 P.M.**

**WESTON TOWN HALL**  
**SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM**

Eric Albert  
*Chairman*  
Committees:  
Administrative,  
Programs

David Juneau  
*Vice Chairman*  
Committee:  
Fields

Carl Bernstein  
*Commissioner*  
Committees:  
Fields, Parks

Marc Butlein  
*Commissioner*  
Committee:  
Programs

Jed Ferdinand  
*Secretary*  
Committee:  
Aquatics

Brian Collins  
*Commissioner*  
Committee:  
Administrative

Mark Crowley  
*Commissioner*

*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 7, 2014 at Weston Town Hall. Commissioners present: Eric Albert, Carl Bernstein, Brian Collins, Mark Crowley, Jed Ferdinand, Marc Butlein and Dave Juneau.

Public Present: Michael Carter, Andrew Dyjak, Fred Lawrence, Karen Mitchell, Robb Thompson, Marjorie White, Steve Santa Maria, Anne Santa Maria, David Kopis, Marc Ferrante, Kristen Rinaldi, Christine Slump, John Egan, Louis Briskman, Daniel S. Fitzgerald, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Chris Harris, Doug Narins, Jon Kamisar, Marc Block ,Dawn Egan, Tony DePasquale, Richard Silverstein, Brian Porter, Leslie Floyd, and Mark Berkowitz.

Call to order: Chairman Albert called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

1) Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the March 10 , 2014 regular meeting were approved.  
Motion to approve Mark Crowley seconded Carl Bernstein. For:  
Albert, Bernstein, Collins, Crowley, Butlein, Ferdinand and Juneau.  
Motion carried 7-0.

2) Public Forum.

The Weston Stadium Field lighting term sheet from the Weston Lights Committee was the topic for tonight's public discussion/ decision. Members of the various Town sports groups were present as well as representatives of the neighborhood surrounding the Stadium Field.

33 Chairman Albert recused himself and handed the meeting over to Vice  
34 Chairman David Juneau.

35 Vice Chairman Juneau explained the jurisdiction of the Parks &  
36 Recreation Commission in the decision making process is :

- 37 1. Recommending club program usage to the Board  
38 of Selectmen
- 39 2. Consideration of Stadium field only
- 40 3. All Board of Ed programs are separate from this  
41 discussion
- 42 4. Highlight the differences in this agreement from  
43 that of Westport agreement (low level lighting added  
44 and curfew of 9 pm.).

45 Mr. Juneau noted that the term sheet reduced the number of community  
46 events for youth football from 5 to 2 events with sound and reduced to 0  
47 the number of lighted events that can be held on Sunday in the fall

48 Mr. Juneau asked Mark Berkowitz if the term sheet was accurate and when  
49 Mr. Berkowitz responded “yes”, Mr. Juneau opened up the floor to the  
50 public for comment on the lighting proposal term sheet.

51 The calendar of usage was discussed among neighbors and youth sports  
52 groups. Term sheet will show the season of use to be spring season March  
53 15<sup>th</sup> through June 15<sup>th</sup>. Fall season to show as one week prior to school  
54 starting through Thanksgiving.

55 Lights, if used on Friday evenings by the High School, will not be used on  
56 Saturday evenings by the youth clubs.

57 Mr. Kamisar noted that the walking lights were a new add to the discussion  
58 and wondered why this is needed? Response was the adult community  
59 needs places to walk safely and low level lights would provide this. The  
60 Town Bicycle and Pedestrian committee will be asked their opinion on  
61 this.

62 Mr. Block asked about the Middle School field availability. Mr. Berkowitz  
63 noted that the MS field is getting run down by all of the user groups and  
64 that it is a teaching station for Middle School PE and after school sports.

65 Mr. Porter asked about the CIAC playoff and championship games that did  
66 not include Weston teams and why they were under consideration for field  
67 lighting use. Mr. Berkowitz stated that the CIAC games not involving  
68 Weston teams are neutral site games. Mr. Berkowitz also stated that the  
69 state receives the receipts from these games and the only financial benefit  
70 to Weston would be Booster Barn concession profits.

71 Mr. Juneau responded that this was in the Board of Education’s  
72 Educational Specifications that they passed and this was not to be included

73 in the discussion and decision tonight by the Parks & Recreation  
74 Commission.

75

76 Mr. Kamisar asked if lacrosse and soccer were simply moving to the  
77 stadium field for crowd control.

78 Karen Mitchell stated that youth lacrosse often puts up to 5 teams on one  
79 field at a time for practices for spring lacrosse. They do not use one field  
80 per team and need the extra space.

81 Commissioner Collins asked why the need for night games for youth  
82 football since it has worked already without them. Mr. DePasquale  
83 responded that the football league does the scheduling and the Town  
84 provides the league with their available facilities to schedule. Ideally all  
85 teams would like to have half their games be played at home on the home  
86 field and that has not been the case. Commissioner Collins then asked if  
87 lights were out at 9 PM? The answer from football was yes.

88

89 Mr. Porter also asked why there was no consideration to put up a trial light  
90 as was done at Bisceglie-Scribner Park.

91 Mr. Block stated he thought the enforcement committee as proposed was  
92 ineffective.

93 Low level walking lights would only be used when there were no lighted  
94 activities on the field already when walking light would not be needed. 2  
95 fixtures per pole of 1,000 watts each on the four poles at approximately 50  
96 feet high would constitute walking lights. No walking lights would be  
97 available on Saturday or Sunday. Monday through Friday only until 9 PM.

98 The walking lights to be outfitted with a push button control to eliminate  
99 the lights being on when no one was using them.

100 Mr. Block wondered why the term sheet was developed by Mr. Carter and  
101 Mr. Juneau without neighbors input.

102 Mr. Juneau responded that the neighbors input in these Commission  
103 meetings were taken in to account.

104 Mr. Kamisar said only one neighbor is proposed to be on the enforcement  
105 committee. Westport has two neighbors of the four members on the  
106 committee.

107 Mr. Juneau will recommend to the Board of Selectmen additional terms for  
108 club usage. The Board of Selectmen if they approve, will pass this on to the  
109 Planning and Zoning Commission to vote on this issue.

110 Changes proposed to the term sheet are as follows.

111 #8.) No practices on Saturday or Sunday are allowed to use lights.

112 #11.)walking lights allowed on all Week Days until 9:00 pm between May  
113 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>.

114 #13.)Club usage would be March 15- June 15 and One week prior to the  
115 start of School through Thanksgiving.

116 #14.) User groups will pay for electricity for their own electricity usage.

117

118 **Motion:**

119 Mr. Juneau Moved that the Weston Parks & Recreation Commission  
120 recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the Town of Weston adopt the  
121 term sheet attached to this motion, for usage of lights on the Weston High  
122 School Stadium field. With modifications to the term sheet noted above.

123 Commissioner Mark Crowley seconded.

124 In Favor, Ferdinand, Collins, Crowley and Juneau.

125 Opposed, none

126 Abstained, Bernstein

127 As Mr. Albert and Mr. Butlein recused themselves from the vote, the  
128 motion carries 4-0 with one abstention.

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134 Unfinished Business

135 a) action items none

136 b) Lights at Bisceglie Field #1: Planning and Zoning approved the  
137 Selectmen's recommendation for the lighting project, Selectmen  
138 and Finance Boards have approved of the gift to the Town. Waiting  
139 on permits at this time.

140 c) Fourth of July Fireworks: thank you to Fairfield County Bank for  
141 their donation of \$5,000.00 the consideration this year is bringing in  
142 a tribute band to the Beatles for the evenings entertainment. The  
143 Commission will consider whether to ask other Weston businesses  
144 to Co- sponsor the fireworks at the May meeting.

145 3) New Business:

146 a) none

147 4) Report of standing committees:

- 148 a) Administrative Committee: Mr. Ungar distributed an Activity  
149 Bottom Line Report for March.
- 150 b) Aquatics none
- 151 c) Fields:
- 152 i) Turf Replacement. A committee has been formed to start the  
153 process of turf replacement on the Lower turf field scheduled  
154 for this summer. Contractors have met at the field for a site  
155 visit. A STEAP grant is being looked in to.
- 156 ii) Coley field Irrigation estimate came in at 4,500.00 which will  
157 be paid from the Enterprise Fund.
- 158 d) Programs Summer Camps, Camps will start a week later this  
159 summer due to the maintenance of the Xenon plant.
- 160 e) Parks: none
- 161 5) Correspondence:
- 162 6) Announcements: None.
- 163 7) Adjournment: The Commission adjourned at 9:17 p.m. Bernstein  
164 Moved, Juneau second. All in favor 7-0.
- 165 8)
- 166 Respectfully Submitted,
- 167 David E, Ungar
- 168 Director
- 169 Weston Parks & Recreation

