

East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
August 6, 2009

Present: Robert Pfanner
Jacqueline Curry
Ed Dzwilewski
Milan Keser

Also Present: David Putnam, Director of Parks and Recreation
Richard Waterman

1. Call to Order. Chairman Pfanner called the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of August 6, 2009 to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Public Delegations. Richard Waterman asked this Commission to consider the following recreational activities for families: horseshoes, bocce, shuffleboard, tennis, croquet, volleyball, mini-golf and/or badminton. He recommended advertising them on a kiosk with information on what activities are available at beach.

He showed commission members photos of a mini-golf course in Old Saybrook. Mr. Keser felt if mini-golf is placed at the beach, open space is lost. Mr. Dzwilewski agreed.

Mr. Putnam suggested beginning with bocce, horseshoe pits and volleyball away from open areas.

3. Minutes

a.) Minutes of Meeting June 4, 2009. Mr. Pfanner asked for additions, correction or deletions to the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2009.

MOTION: Mrs. Curry moved to accept the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2009, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dzwilewski. Mr. Pfanner abstained from voting. (3-0-1) Motion carried.

4. Director's Report. (See attached report).

MOTION: Mrs. Curry moved to authorize David Putnam to request funds to purchase new tables and grills for McCook Point Park from the Board of Finance for an amount not to exceed \$9,000. Seconded by Mr. Keser. (4-0) Unanimous.

5. Communications.

Mr. Dzwilewski reported he and Mr. Nadeau recommend Robert Tobin to be the first recipient of the Commission's Life Time Achievement Award. All Commission members were asked to review the information provided to discuss at its next meeting.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no discussion of unfinished business.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a.) Facility Request form from Tara McKeon Hartley representing the East Lyme High School Class of 1984 requesting use of the Pavilion at McCook Point Park, August 22, 2009 from 1:30 p.m. to close for a reunion family picnic.

MOTION: Mr. Dzwilewski moved to approve the Facilities Request Form from East Lyme High School Class of 1984 Reunion to reserve the Pavilion at McCook Point Park on August 22, 2009 from 1:30 p.m. to dusk. Seconded by Mr. Keser. (4-0) Unanimous

b.) McCook Point Park Improvements. There was no further discussion on this matter.

9. FYI

Mr. Putnam made available to commission members vendor bills and the program budget.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Dzwilewski moved to adjourn the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of August 6, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Curry. (4-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Ghersi, Recording Secretary

Director's Report
August 6, 2009

McCook Point Park

- To date we have issued 2,937 vehicle beach stickers – 173 are non-resident. Non-resident day passes have increased significantly. The selling of the day passes at the Hole in the Wall has worked out great.
- The new Beach Groomer has worked out well we have received many compliments on the condition of the beach. We have also contracted out the groomer to the Black Point Beach Association, Crescent Beach Association, and the Niantic Bay Yacht Club.
- The Niantic Bay Triathlon will be held this Sunday for safety reasons they have moved the transition area from the upper to the lower parking lot. They have 600 registered runners and closed registration.
- Hole in the Wall support building and parking lot addition has been a huge improvement over past years, opening ceremony to take place in mid October.
- I would like the Commissions input and possible approval to use existing Capital Improvement Monies left over from various projects to purchase new picnic tables. Existing tables are old and we are constantly replacing the wood and painting over.
- I have received a proposal from Mr. Waterman on possible improvements to McCook. We are looking at constructing a Bocce Court near the pavilion in the near future.

Celebrate East Lyme

- 4th Annual Sandcastle Contest was well attended with 15 teams participating. We get a lot of spectators during the event and during the day to check out the sculptures.
- Dave Brown our Intern did an outstanding job promoting the event setting up links on Facebook and other internet sites. He also was instrumental in marketing and implementing the first Great Niantic Bay Raft Race. We only had two teams this year but have things in place for next year. We hope to make this an annual tradition. Dave also volunteered to help with the Antique Car show during the day.
- The event was well attended with very few problems at McCook.

Athletic Facilities:

- Fall seasons are now underway with Youth Soccer and Football starting practices this week. High School Girls Soccer will start at Bridebrook the third week in August.
- Groups using the facilities this summer included; War at the Shore Baseball Tournaments, Potvin Baseball Tournaments, Blue Print Lacrosse Camp, East Lyme Soccer Club Camps, Skyhawks Sport Camps, America's Game Baseball and Softball Clinics, Eastern CT Major League Baseball Games, Little League Baseball and Softball District All Star Games as well as hosting the ECC Softball Championships.
- Basketball Courts at Peretz Park have been resurfaced and repainted completed in early July. We have received many compliments and the courts look great.

Budget/Miscellaneous:

- Last fiscal year we took in over \$287,000.00 in revenue, we had projected \$231,900 a plus of over \$55,000.
- In this years budget was the re-instatement of a maintainers position on July 1st we hired Jake Pickerall to fill this new spot. We presently are back to October of 2004 staffing levels for full time maintainers (1 Foreman and 3 Maintainers)

- Congratulations to Anna Hartung our Administrative Assistant who had a baby girl in late July, she will be returning to work after her six weeks of leave.
- Update on the Roxbury Road property a quit claim deed has been issued from the state officially turning over the 25 acre parcel to the town all paper work necessary has been filed with the Town Clerk.

Programs:

- Playground program continues to be well attended we have over 300 participants with approximately 80 taking part in the after care option.
- Skyhawk Sports Camps continue to be popular we offered camps in Tennis, Track and Field, Baseball, Basketball and Soccer.
- We participated with New London and Waterford in a Tri-town fitness and weight loss program that had close to 100 participants.
- Fall brochure is in the final proof and will be mailed on Friday August 21.
- Men's Softball will be concluding the regular season next week we had 16 teams participate.