

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, July 17, 2012**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Don Woods called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Mary Udice, Kathy Zolad, Bill DeBlasio, Jen Win-Johnson, Ed Marchion, Richard Khentigan, Jim Marocchini, Don Woods, Robert Fresen

Board Members Absent: Eileen Francolino, Jeff Perillo

Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till

Town Liaison: None

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chris Brooks, Marcello Signorello, and John Paolo Signorello, Boy Scouts with Troop 355 observed the meeting for ideas to complete their Eagle Scout projects. Rich Khentigan suggested a park clean-up project.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF June 19, 2012

James Marocchini made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2012 meeting. Kathy Zolad seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

Monthly Report FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Extravaganza festivities begin this week, Pool party on Monday was a huge success; hundreds of people there because of the hot weather but today the field day turn out is not so good due to the heat. However, approximately 50-75 kids participated. Extravaganza is underway, inspection for carnival is Wednesday with Carnival to begin on Thursday, Concert and Beer Garden on Friday, and activities all day Saturday with Firework. Good weather is forecasted for the weekend and we are in good shape financially as well. All department heads are good to go and know responsibilities; schedules have been set up for volunteers and staff working the extravaganza. Don Woods commented on volunteer schedules and said it would be helpful for all board members to work the extravaganza (ticket booth) to cut as many costs as possible to help make money. Bruce Till suggests money should be counted and wrapped as the day/night progresses. Carnival people need to be paid in full before they leave the grounds Thursday night. Height sign for rides will not work because height requirement is different for each ride, riders need to go to the ride to see if they meet height requirement.

Summer Camp program: Over 300 kids enrolled. A lot of young campers which is adding stress to the counselors requiring more one on one time with the kids, and some behavioral problems

with other kids which had to involve social services and parents but trying to keep these kids involved in the summer program.

Pools: The hot weather has the pools jammed, high attendance. Still losing water but will not shut the pool down.

Vandalism at the Midget Football Concession, someone was trying to break into the concession stand a couple of times. Bruce Till was there with the Police Department and told Jeff Perillo he will review the surveillance tapes when the weather cools down. Ongoing problem with kids on the field and leaving garbage behind.

Field rentals at the Synthetic Turf Field is bringing in income

Handicap Lifts for pool were not put in. The lifts are manual, a staff person will have to put the person in and lower. The new ADA law was postponed from March 2012 and will not be in effect until January 2013, the lifts will be put in for next summer.

New playground equipment was installed at Churchill Park, spider web rope-climb.

Summer Concert Series is well received, attendance of over 300 people.

Candlewyck Park: Don Woods asked Kathy Zolad if the playground equipment at Candlwyck Park was pulled out because of past vandalism. Kathy Zolad said the playground equipment is in the park but the equipment and park has been neglected and is overgrown. The kids in the area try to use the park but leave the area. If park is updated, Kathy Zolad suggests activating the neighbors to watch the park area and keep the area clean so kids will continue to use the park. Bruce Till mentioned that Candlewyck Park and the path near Elton Drive that Rose Lyons had mentioned in the last meeting have been cleaned up. He also mentioned that the equipment at Candlewyck Park is 30 years old, needs to be upgraded and was possibly next on the list of parks to be renovated, still questioning vandalism at the park since it does not get a lot of police coverage in that area. Bruce Till mentioned there is one more spider web rope-climb available for another park, Candlewyck Park along with additional equipment is a possibility. Another spot for the spider web climb would be Clem Lemire or Mill Pond Park. The cost for the spider web climb is \$8,000.00.

Bill DeBlasio for Eileen Francolino regarding vandalism at the West Meadow Cemetery. Someone has been stealing pots and plants out of the ground. No security cameras at the cemetery now, police to cover the area, Bruce Till mentioned if it continues will have to install a gate and lock it up.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY CENTER PROPOSALS

Olson, the Architect will be in next week to meet with the Town Manager and Mayor. The Building committee meeting are talking about having the community center offsite.

MILL POND PARK PLAYSCAPE POURED IN-PLACE

Project still on hold.

CLEM LEMIRE

Paving to take place for parking and will be done before the third week of August. Highway department will be doing the paving. Don Woods asked if a sign would be put up for direction to the entrance. Bruce Till would like to get into a public works meeting and talk to Malloy and the planner before putting up a sign. Skate board park, caulking has been done. Painting needs to be done again because of some graffiti.

VII. AUGUST 2012 MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Mary Udice to adjourn. Kathy Zolad seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm with a 9-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Jay