

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, June 19, 2012**

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Mary Udice, Eileen Francolino, Kathy Zolad, Bill DeBlasio, Jen Win-Johnson, Jeff Perillo, Ed Marchion, , Jim Marocchini, Don Woods, Robert Fresen

Board Members Absent: Richard Khentigan

Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till

Town Liaison: None

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bryan Gionfriddo of 93 Crestview Drive, Newington. He is working on his Eagle Scout project for Troop 347, building and installing four bat houses. Two for Mill Pond Park to be installed on a post near the wooden bridge area and soccer field area. Two for Churchill Park one to be mounted on a telephone pole and the other to be mounted on a post and installed near the woods/nature area. The bat houses will reduce mosquito and bug population at the parks. Project completion time approximately 10 days from start to finish. Bat house size is 18”w x 31”h x 5”w, stained natural, and will be 10- 15’ off the ground. Bat houses will be maintained by the troop. Commission agrees to let Bryan go ahead with his project. Bryan Gionfriddo is responsible for coordinating this with Bruce’s office and also responsible for contacting Call before You Dig.

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive, Newington. She is requesting clearing and clean up of the New Meadow Pathway on Elton Drive and Farmsted up to the senior housing. Island areas need to be weeded and cleaned up. Also the pathway along St. Mary’s “Safe Route to School” the trees are hanging over the side of the walkway and it is becoming very overgrown, the kids are walking on St. Mary’s property because they cannot walk on the pathway.

Kathy Zolad commented that the Candlewyck Park entrance also needs clean up, it is overgrown and broken glass on the ground.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF May 15, 2012

Mary Udice made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2012 meeting. Eileen Francolino seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 10-0 vote.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS
FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**

A letter from Sharon Lichota was distributed to all the board members commending the Newington Parks and Recreation Department for their outstanding services. All members thought it was very nice to hear some good news.

The Parks Department staff has been very busy preparing for activities that have been taking place, Relay for life held the weekend of May 18-19, Touch a Truck, and the Lavery Race. Soccer Tournament at Newington High School – 105 teams, parks staff marked 11 fields. The Annual Golf Tournament was very successful. Commission still has concerns regarding the skate park, caulking has begun and isolating different components as work progresses to fix problem areas and finish up. Pools will be opening Monday, June 25 as well as the Playground Program. Staff training for programs have been going on for the past 3 weeks. Eileen Francolino would like to know the status of Churchill Pool. Bruce Till mentions that it is still leaking water. He has tried to find where the leaks are stemming from, has dug out four separate areas exposing pipes and checking all joints and returns but found no leaks. Most likely the water is leaking through expansion joints and cracks in the pool. Churchill Pool will continue to operate for the season. Bill DeBlasio questioning if a flood light will be installed at the skate park, Bruce Till will be giving that more attention since school is now out of session and more kids will be at the skate park.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY CENTER PROPOSALS

Olson, the person the town is contracted with will be spending a day with the Town Manager and the Mayor at the end of June to discuss different recommendations. Kathy Zolad asked if they will still be considering a new center or just renovating the old. Bruce Till was unsure of whether or not the Town Manger and Mayor have changed their minds in terms of what their original thoughts were. Bruce Till feels they are both open minded to the recommendations made by the person they have hired.

MILL POND PARK PLAYSCAPE POURED IN-PLACE

Bruce Till is still investigating and working on it. Some things maybe be happening to help this project along. Mary Udice would like to be updated on this project.

EXTRAVAGANZA UPDATE

Still need volunteers to sign up to work. Bill DeBlasio talked to the Presidents of Little League and Midget Football and they are willing to give \$250.00 each to sponsor the Tuesday Family Field Day. Midget Football would like to put up a poster at the concession stand to show interest. Applications forms need to be filled out before the 21st of June for signs and posters that will be made up of the list of people sponsoring the extravaganza. Don Woods and Stephanie will be on public TV on June 21st at 8 pm promoting the extravaganza and go over the entire event, what will happen each day and talk about the sponsors. It will run through the month of July. Ed Marchion found a volunteer to do Karaoke. Eileen Francolino still has Fireman to run Chili Booth, just working out the electricity.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

SIGN POLICY AT CLEM LEMIRE

Ed Marchion suggested that all signs be uniform, he saw this display at another athletic field in South Windsor and thought it looked clean, neat and looked nice. Bruce Till mentions that the sign policy has already been approved, in the process of putting in a permit application for those who want signs. Don Woods and Kathy Zolad want to invoice Little League after the Extravaganza for a total of 16 signs at the field. Bruce Till will speak to the Little League President. Signs do not all have to look the same, but future signs will be the same size as stated in the new policy.

Public Participation:

Rose Lyons suggested that a park entrance sign for Clem Lemire be posted on Willard Avenue for people who are not from the area. She also mentioned people are speeding down the road near Churchill Park.

Mary Udice mentioned courtyards at John Wallace are very overgrown and would like to know who is responsible for the upkeep, tall grass, dead tree limbs from last Octobers storm. Bruce Till talk to Lou to get them cleaned up. Jeff Perillo mentioned that Lenares Landscaping takes care of the inner courtyard at John Patterson.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Kathy Zolad to adjourn. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm with a 10-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Jay