

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
TUESDAY, September 9, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. ROLL CALL**

Board: Eileen Francolino, Mary Udice, Ed Marchion, Jen Win-Johnson, Ken Leggo, Bill DeBlasio, Don Woods, Kathy Zolad

Board Members Absent: Robert Fresen, Richard Khentigan

Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF July 8, 2014**

**Mary Udice made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2014 meeting. Eileen Francolino seconded the motion. The motion passed with an 8-0 vote.**

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None

**V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS**

Bruce sent Mrs. Bonitsky a letter regarding the memorial bench that was placed at the West Meadow Cemetery in memory of her husband Dennis for all his years of dedication and service to the town cemeteries, to see if she would prefer a formal or informal dedication. She responded to Bruce, she likes the bench a lot and would prefer a low key informal dedication at some point in the future.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**Extravaganza:**

The extravaganza was a huge success, the weather was perfect, the turnout was great, numbers are outstanding. Bruce has concerns regarding the craft vendors and sponsorship, it needs to get better. The staff and board members need to find a better way to solicit and get more people to sponsor the event. Friday night is still not hugely popular, losing money. Bruce will continue with Fridays but only if the board members want to continue with it, maybe offer a wine and beer tasting. Bill DeBlasio suggested gearing Friday night towards a different age group, offer more food and different kind of music, maybe a DJ. Don suggested having a family night, Party in the park. Bruce mentioned putting food row on the other side of the field. He also mentioned putting the utilities underground for the vendors and the event.

**Golf Tournament:** This event does very well and will continue with it. We worked hard at getting sponsors as well as golfers. It is a good town wide event, numbers are positive.

**Mill Pond Pavilion:** Bruce was hoping to have the pavilion stained and landscaped by now but have run into some road blocks with a couple of staff out on workers comp. and wetland areas

around tennis courts needed attention to that needed to be cleaned up. Stumps around town still need to be ground up but stump grinder is out for repairs at the moment.

**Community Center:** Waiting for all the votes to come in from the referendum to see what the next step will be. Don Woods thanked Bill DeBlasio and Jen Win-Johnson for all their hard work and time they devoted to the project.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Chapel:** Bids came in very high over budget, Bruce will be meeting with the contractor this week to see if he can get it in line with the budget and discussing at the public works meeting to see if there are some things the parks and rec department can do themselves.

**Pool Attendance:** Well and heavily attended. Churchill Pool filtration systems were not capable of backwashing some minor repairs done. In the future, some major renovations will have to be done on one or both pools. Bruce will look back at the analysis and reports that Weston & Sampson did to see if the filtration systems were included.

**Playground Attendance:** Numbers are decreasing annually. Could be the demographics or age group. Don mentioned extending time but most of the staff are college kids that go back to school at the end of August.

Summer was very successful for camp, the aquatics department and playgrounds.

**Cleaning Sewer Lines:** MDC will be cleaning sewer lines that go through Mill Pond Park in the next coming weeks for six weeks. Bruce has a map of the pipe layout. Walk way around pond will be temporarily closed.

Nutmeg games went terrific. Bruce will have number on the rent next month. After the games some areas of the field needed to be glued and repaired very minor.

## **VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: A motion was made by Eileen Francolino to adjourn. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm with an 8-0 vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Nancy Jay