Town of Seymour
Parks Commission

Monthly Meeting – April 28, 2008

Members Present: Ray Faustich, Bill Paecht, Bob Lang, Bill Stowe, Dominick Bellucci

Guests Present: Dennis Rozum – PW, Scott Andrews – Citizen’s Engine Co., Alex Danka – Seymour Land Trust, Al Yagovane – Broad St. Park project

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Bill Paecht

Scott Andrews made a request to have the Citizen’s Engine Company 125th anniversary carnival at French Park from June 25-28, 2009. The commission had concerns about the field being damaged. We cannot approve field applications until February, 2009 but we have assured Scott we will work with him so that the location would not be a problem.

Alex Danka has been patrolling parks on our behalf for a few months. He reported that the French Park fencing on top of the cliff has been vandalized. Also, the door to the storage building has been damaged. He also mentioned protruding spikes on some 6 X 6 timbers at LoPresti playground. Dennis said he had taken care of that problem and was also aware of the vandalism at French Park. Bill Paecht thanked Alex for watching over the parks. Bill stressed that Alex is to report to the police anybody in the park after hours. However, we do not want Alex to endanger himself by trying resolve the problem himself.

Dennis reported that all fields had been fertilized and aerated. Stumps at French Park had been ground down. Clay had been put on all baseball and softball fields but more was needed at Matthies Park. Dennis will take care of this. He explained that we obtain beam clay from New Jersey and clay mix from Keegan in North Branford.

The bocce courts and horseshoe pits at the Community Center Field should be completed in the next two weeks. The courts and pits will be constructed close to the side wall of the
Community Center so that we can put lighting on the existing pole. Alex mentioned that the Land Trust is building similar bocce courts and they have detailed plans. Dennis was asked to contact John Conroy for a copy of the plans. The bocce courts and horseshoe pits are a priority of the commission and will be completed in May.

Dennis is working with Bill Jarvis to get the sub varsity field lights completed. The scoreboard at French Park is now working.

Applications were approved for Seymour Land Trust at Chatfield Park, Seymour High School Softball team for fund raiser tournament at Bungay, SMS softball, and SHS softball fields. Also a request for a birthday party at Chatfield Park pavilion was approved.

Copies of the 2008-09 budget were distributed. We received an overall 18.47% increase. Bill Paecht explained that there were no labor costs in the budget as Public Works paid that out of their budget.

Al Yagovane made a presentation about renovations to Broad Street Park. This extensive project involves putting in stone walkways, improved drainage, and additional lighting. The parks commission has set aside $10,000 for the project. Al has assured us that he will not come back for additional funding and will seek donations for any costs over and above $10,000. He would like a purchase order to obtain the bricks at current prices but we have to have a firm price before that can be done. The commission will need a materials list and a price before issuing any purchase orders. Public works will pick up stone dust for the project and store it at no cost for the trucking. The commission would like to see the lighting plans before installation. Bill Paecht suggested that Al check with public works to possibly get better prices through the state bid list. Alex added that he might be able to help with vendors or sources of materials.

After a discussion, it was agreed to purchase 4 quality picnic tables for French Park. Bob Lang will check out various vendors.

We have applied for grants for security cameras ($50,000) and gym equipment for the senior center ($15,000).
It was agreed that Sochrin’s Pond Park be allowed to rest this spring. Only 2-3 games per day will be allowed on Saturdays and Sundays.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM. Motion by Dom, 2nd, Bill Stowe.
All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Lang
Secretary, Parks Commission