

Town of Seymour Parks Commission



Monthly Meeting - December 22, 2008

Members Present: Bill Paecht, Bob Lang, Ray Faustich, Mike Gargano, Dom Bellucci

Guests Present: Al Yagovane, Marc Weissman

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Chairman Bill Paecht

Minutes of the November 17, 2008 meeting were read. Motion to approve, Ray, 2nd Dom. All in favor.

Marc Weissman spoke in favor of a dog park in town. He has been taking his dog to a dog park in Hamden. These areas are fenced in and rules are posted with adequate supervision. Members expressed interest and will look into the possibility.

Al Yagovane explained that the lights he installed on the trees at the Broad Street Park are not working properly. Also, the bulbs on the gazebo are burned out. Another problem at the park was a lack of a large decorated Christmas tree. Al stated that he had offers of trees to be donated but they never were picked up by public works and brought to the park. In the future, the parks commission will closely oversee this situation.

Al would like to continue the Broad Street sidewalk renovation project. After much discussion, a deadline of January 15 was given for Al to bring to the board a detailed plan and list of materials. Once we receive that, we can go out to bid on the project. Al explained that he did not paint the gazebo due to poor weather on weekends and rotting boards which have to be replaced. At the January meeting, we will set up a yearly calendar of events. This will include dates for selecting a tree for the park and a date to erect the tree. Also, lights for the tree will be in our budget.

Bill explained that the town will be applying for a STEAP grant in the amount of \$70,000 for improvements at French Park. This includes two tennis courts and a volleyball court. Board members expressed concerns that we were not consulted about this and we are hearing about this project after the fact. We will obtain a copy of the grant proposal from the grants coordinator.

In a review of town parks, the following was discussed:

Seymour Soccer will be able to erect netting at Chatfield Park since the goal area is on town property.

Seymour Pop Warner still wants to put lights on an existing pole to illuminate Gesek Field.

Matthies Park is in need of repairs. The infield needs clay, the outfield has ruts, and the drainage is still poor. Also the sprinklers come on at inopportune times.

Wind screens at several parks have not been taken down in two years and are taking a beating.

The \$200,000 grant for lighting at Seymour High School was intended only to reimburse the town for DeBarber Field and the track. When the money is received, it will be put into the general fund. The subcommittee of Bob and Ray will check with First Selectman Bob Koskelowski about steering the money toward lighting other fields at the high school.

The 2009-2010 parks budget was finalized. Cuts of \$5,000 were made, bringing the bottom line to \$100,850. This will be presented at the budget hearing in February. The board also revised the 5 year long term capital improvements plan.

The parks usage form was revised with detailed listings of park rules along with a fee schedule on the back. A motion to accept the new form was made by Dom, with a 2nd by Mike. All in favor.

Alex Danka will be invited to the next meeting to discuss some issues with Seymour Land Trust.

Dom asked about returning to our original meeting time of 7:00. He volunteered to get the key each time. Motion to make the change by Dom, 2nd Bob. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 PM. Motion by Ray, 2nd Dom. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Lang
Secretary, Parks Commission