

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Special Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2014

Attending: M. Colpoys; C. Deming; M. Francese; J. Gowac; C. Grillo; W. Parkus; M. Roberts; E. Smith; T. Quinn
Guests: D. Carbo; S. Wheeler

Mr. Parkus called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Guests & Audience

Ms. Quinn introduced Dan Carbo and advised that he would like to speak to the Commissioners about creating a disc golf course in Town.

Mr. Carbo distributed booklets on the sport of disc golf and described how the game is played. He stated that it is a family sport, very popular throughout the country and growing in CT. He advised that there are currently 18 courses in CT but that the closest course to East Haddam is over one hour away. Mr. Carbo stated that they have spoken with the Land Use Director about the project who is very supportive.

Mr. Carbo advised that Mr. Ventres recommended the Open Space behind Nichols Field as a good site for the course because it has walking paths, is not currently heavily used and has adjacent parking. He displayed a map of the area with a proposed 18-hole course design and responded to several questions from the Commissioners. He advised that it is preferable to have an experienced consultant design the course; however most of the installation work could be done by volunteers. He stated that the design/equipment/ installation costs are between \$25-35,000.00 and agreed to develop a comprehensive budget for the proposal.

Ms. Quinn advised that the liability risk would be covered by Town insurance. She thanked Mr. Carbo for his presentation

MR. SMITH MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. GRILLO, TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF A DISC GOLF COURSE AT THE NICHOLS FIELD OPEN SPACE. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 20, 2014 meeting were not available for review.

MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. DEMMING TO DISPENSE WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2014 REGULAR MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Treasurer's Report

There was no Treasurer's Report for discussion.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports for discussion.

Directors Report

Ms. Quinn reported on the following items:

- She and several Town representatives met with people who live near the skateboard park and have expressed several concerns. She advised that they discussed several potential solutions to their concerns.
- Mr. Carbo has expressed interest in creating a disc golf course in Town and has talked with her and Mr. Ventres about several potential sites.
- She feels that Parks and Recreation needs to promote itself more and she will be working to accomplish that. She solicited volunteers to help distribute materials at the upcoming School Open Houses.
- She will attend the September Board of Finance meeting to open up a dialogue with them regarding the Commission.

Ms. Quinn advised that she is going to be assigned a secretary for 10-hrs per week and she and the Commissioners discussed potential schedules.

Old Business

There was no Old Business discussed at the meeting

New Business

Ms. Quinn recommended the Commissioners consider establishing a refund policy for the Parks and Recreation Programs. She suggested charging a \$15.00 refund fee to cover the cost of the website and credit card charges the Town is assessed for each registration.

MR. SMITH MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. FRANCESE TO ADOPT A CANCELLATION POLICY/FEE OF \$15.00. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Next Meeting

The Commissioners reviewed their calendars and agreed to change the date of their next meeting.

MR. PARKUS MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. GRILLO, TO CHANGE THE DATE OF THEIR SEPTEMBER MEETING FROM THE 18TH TO THE 25TH. UNANIMOUS AYE.

There was no addition business discussed at the meeting.

MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MS. DEMING TO ADJOURNE THE MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Sharon R. Wheeler
Recording Secretary