

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**November 12, 2015**

Attending: M. Colpoys; J. Gowac; C. Grillo; M. Michalski; W. Parkus; T. Quinn  
Absent: C. Deming; M. Francese; M. Roberts; E. Smith

Mr. Parkus called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

**Guests & Audience**

There were no guests or audience at the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes – Regular Meetings of July 9, 2015 and October 8, 2015**

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 9, 2015.

MR. GOWAC MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. GRILLO TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 9, 2015 REGULAR MEETING AS WRITTEN. UNANIMOUS AYE.

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 8, 2015.

MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY DR. COLPOYS, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2015 REGULAR MEETING AS WRITTEN. UNANIMOUS AYE.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Gowac reported that the Commission had expended \$42,200 of its \$114,906 budget leaving a balance of \$72,706.

MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. MICHALSKI, TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT. UNANIMOUS AYE.

**Committee Reports**

There were no committee reports provided at the meeting. In response to a question raised by Mr. Gowac, Ms. Quinn advised that there is a record of total donations made each week going back several years.

**Old Business**

- Basketball – Ms. Quinn reported that not enough kids tried out for travel basketball to make up a team. She advised that regular basketball is going well and that registrations for the 4-6<sup>th</sup> grade girls' team was up.

Ms. Quinn stated that Coach Dave Vasquenza will conduct a Youth Basketball Coaching Clinic on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the elementary school. She advised that the clinic is free to East Haddam coaches and referees and she has opened it up to surrounding towns.

- Soccer – Ms. Quinn reported that the surveys on the soccer program are starting to come in. There was a brief discussion regarding the preliminary comments and suggestions.
- Town Beach – The Commissioners reviewed copies of the new beach ordinance and sign.

### **New Business**

- 2016 Meeting Schedule – The Commissioners agreed to set their meetings for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. They discussed holding the meetings at one of the schools and Ms. Quinn stated she would check to see if any of the schools' meeting rooms are available.
- Updated Policies & Procedures – Ms. Quinn distributed copies of the Rec Department's updated policies and procedures.

MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY DR. COLPOYS, TO ACCEPT THE UPDATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AS WRITTEN. UNANIMOUS AYE.

- 2016-17 Budget – Ms. Quinn distributed copies of a report on the Rec Commission's Special Revenue Fund balances.  
MR. GOWAC MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. MICHALSKI, TO ASK THE BOARD OF FINANCE TO ESTABLISH A DAY CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO BE FUNDED BY ALLOCATING NO LESS THAN 50% OF EACH YEAR'S DAY CAMP PROFITS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT.
- Harris Property Budget Cut – Ms. Quinn distributed a spreadsheet showing the Finance Director's recommendation for cutting departmental budgets to cover the cost of the improvements to the Harris Property and the referendum on rescinding the STEAP Grant for the Center on Community Agriculture. The Commissioners reviewed the spreadsheet and agreed not to take any action at this time.
- Other
  - Ms. Quinn distributed copies of her write-up for the Annual Report. The Commissioners reviewed her comments and provided positive feedback.
  - Ms. Quinn advised that Thomas Hennick will conduct an educational workshop on Freedom of Information on November 30<sup>th</sup> at the Grange Hall. She stated that the workshop is open to the public.
  - Ms. Quinn distributed a write-up on her role on the Local Prevention Council.
  - Ms. Quinn distributed a copy of East Haddam's general participation rules and operating procedures for youth basketball. She noted that some towns' half-court, man-to-man defense rules are different than East Haddam's. The Commissioners agreed not to make any changes to the existing rules.
  - Ms. Quinn stated she would like to require that life guard applicants pass a drug test. The Commissioners discussed her recommendation and felt it was a good idea but agreed that Ms. Quinn should get input from the town attorney before establishing the policy. Dr. Colpoys suggested Ms. Quinn should also ask the town attorney to clarify the state law regarding drug testing of Rec Department employees in general.

MR. GOWEC MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY DR. COLPOYS, THAT, CONTINGENT UPON THE TOWN ATTORNEY'S OPINION, THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT ESTABLISH A POLICY OF REQUIRING A PRE-EMPLOYMENT PHYSICAL AND DRUG TEST FOR POTENTIAL LIFE GUARDS. UNANIMOUS AYE.

**Other/Next Meeting**

There was no additional business discussed at the meeting.

MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. GOWAC TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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