

## RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

January 17, 2013

Attending: K. Conway; C. Deming; J. Gowac; C. Grillo; V. Parkus; T. Quinn; B. Parker; M. Roberts

Absent: M. Michalski; E. Smith

Also Present: S. Wheeler

Mr. Parker called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m.

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed.

MR. CONWAY MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 AND NOVEMBER 15, 2012 MEETINGS AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. GOWAC. MR. GRILLO ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE AND THE MOTION PASSED WITH A MAJORITY OF AYES.

### Treasurer's Report

MR. PARKUS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT AS PRESENTED. MS. DEMING SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### Correspondence

Ms. Quinn advised that the Recreation Commission had received a thank you note from Mrs. Irene Herden for its condolence card it sent on the passing of her husband, Everett.

### Director's Report

Ms. Quinn reported on the following:

- Basketball season is underway and, overall, things are going smoothly. She advised that a potential problem arose when the father of one of the players on the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade team insisted that his son be placed on a specific team but she ultimately was able to accommodate the request.
- Travel basketball is going very well. There has been one injury but, in general, everyone seems very pleased with the program. Ms. Quinn stated that she may ask Coach Moses to run a basketball camp this summer.

### Old Business

1. Heritage Park – Ms. Quinn reported that the walking path at Heritage Park has been completed. She advised that Ms. Lunt will order exercise equipment for the walking stations. She noted that Mr. Barlow, who designed the park, was disappointed that the planned gardens would not be installed. Ms. Quinn explained that the Rec Commission has no means of maintaining gardens at the park and Mr. Grillo suggested contacting the local garden centers, Scouts, or the garden club to see if any of them would volunteer to install and maintain gardens at the park.

## New Business

1. 2013-2014 Budget – Mr. Parker advised that he and Ms. Quinn had met with First Selectman Walter and Finance Director Varricchio and discussed their recommendations for several increases to the Recreation Commission's 2013-14 budget. He stated that he felt Mr. Walter and Ms. Varricchio were supportive of most of the recommendations.

Ms. Quinn distributed several documents and the first document she reviewed was an overview of the Sports Conductor website. She advised that Sports Conductor is a web-based registration platform where participants can sign-up and pay for Rec programs on-line. She advised that, unlike some of the other similar websites she reviewed, there is no up-front cost for Sports Conductor. Rather, a one-time fee per registrant is charged and the Rec Commission will be billed monthly. She suggested that registration fees can be increased by a small amount to cover this charge. Ms. Quinn reviewed the features of the website and there was a general discussion about the site and how much to increase Rec program fees.

**MR. GOWAC MADE A MOTION TO PURSUE SPORTS CONDUCTOR FOR THE EAST HADDAM RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATIONS AND TO INCREASE ALL REC PROGRAM FEES BY \$5.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. ROBERTS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ms. Quinn advised that Ms. Varricchio suggested phasing in mandatory on-line registration over a period of years. Mr. Grillo suggested monitoring the use of the website to determine what kind of impact, if any, it has on the level of registrations for Rec Commission programs.

Ms. Quinn reviewed a list of recommendations that would impact the 2013-14 budget as well as a list of proposed increases to the budget. There was a general discussion about Ms. Quinn's recommendation to discontinue the day camp CIT program and proposed on-line training for camp staff. The Commissioners supported Ms. Quinn's recommendation about discontinuing the CIT program but did not want to purchase the on-line training program this year.

There was a general discussion about the issue of security at Rec Commission programs. The Commissioners agreed to review the programs and develop a recommendation about whether or not there is a need to make any changes to the existing security procedures and, if so, what impact it would have on the budget.

The Commissioners reviewed the line-by-line budget and Ms. Quinn noted several discrepancies. Mr. Parker asked her to provide him with a comprehensive list of her questions and he would discuss them with Ms. Varricchio. The Commissioners also discussed cuts in several budget line items.

**MR. GOWAC MADE A MOTION TO SUPPORT THE 2013-14 RECREATION COMMISSION BUDGET NUMBERS AS PRESENTED BY THE RECREATION DIRECTOR. MR. GRILLO SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## Adjournment

There being no additional business to discuss, **MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. DEMING AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sharon R. Wheeler  
Recording Secretary