

**TOWN OF DARIEN
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2012**

ATTENDANCE: Jane Branigan, Chair; Susan Daly; Mary Flynn; Robert Marchesi;
Erika Morris

STAFF: Susan Swiatek, Director; James Coghlan, Assistant Director

GUESTS: Linda Hannett; Pam Ha-Stevenson; Darien Junior Sailing Team

Ms. Branigan called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2012

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 3: correct spelling of starts to start

Second sentence, under Sub-committees should read: The path at Woodland Park...

Third sentence should read: Mr. Coghlan said that Parks and Recreation needs an inventory of the number of trees that came down for possible reimbursement from the Town's insurance.

**** MS. BRANIGAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**

**** MS. DALY SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. BRANIGAN)**

**DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON THE FUTURE OF THE ROSS PROPERTY BUILDING AT
WEED BEACH (DJST BUILDING)**

Ms. Swiatek referred to the picture in the meeting packet showing damage to the Ross Building from Hurricane Sandy. She explained that the junior sailing area took a big hit when the storm surge hit it several times and flooded the area. The building is structurally compromised and the walls are saturated with oil. She said that she was here to discuss whether or not the Commission wants to remove the building.

Ms. Swiatek provided a history of the building. A discussion ensued.

- ** MS. FLYNN MOVED TO DEMOLISH THE ROSS PROPERTY BUILDING AT WEED BEACH
- ** MS. MORRIS SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON SAILING PROGRAM ALTERNATIVES FOR SUMMER 2013; PRESENTATION FROM GUESTS: LINDA HANNETT AND PAM HA-STEVENSON, DARIEN JUNIOR SAILING TEAM, REGARDING ORGANIZATION AND DELIVERY OF THE SUMMER SAILING PROGRAM AT WEED BEACH

Ms. Hannett gave a presentation about the summer sailing program at Weed Beach. She said that they were severely impacted by Hurricane Sandy. She described a typical day at the sailing program and talked about the space and equipment requirements. The Commissioners discussed various options for a temporary site to implement the sailing program.

- ** MR. MARCHESI MOVED TO ALLOW THE DARIEN JUNIOR SAILING TEAM PROGRAM TO UTILIZE THE AREA ADJACENT TO THE FORMER SAILING SITE ON MAIN BEACH COUPLED WITH THE USE OF THE PADDLE BUILDING
- ** MS. FLYNN SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT, STONY BROOK PARK

Ms. Daly said that Andrew Fletcher asked about having doggy bag stations. Ms. Swiatek said maybe. Ms. Branigan asked if Mr. Fletcher could come before the Commission and make a presentation. Ms. Daly explained that he first has to get the Scout board to approve this project. She said that she will contact him.

REVIEW AND TACK ACTION ON BUDGETS SUBMISSIONS FY2014

Ms. Swiatek distributed copies of the operating and capital budgets. She explained that there is a new process in place and it is due at the end of the month.

The Commissioners discussed the capital expenditure plan and prioritized each project.

Ms. Swiatek reviewed the preliminary operating budget and the areas of focus/change. She said that the numbers are based on experience from previous years.

- ** MS. DALY MOVED TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL BUDGET AS PRIORITIZED

**** MS. MORRIS SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MS. FLYNN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGET AS
SUBMITTED
** MR. MARCHESI SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REPORTS:

A. DIRECTOR

There were no questions on Ms. Swiatek's report.

B. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Mr. Coghlan said that revenues were up at the paddle courts; there were a few complaints about the fee increase.

C. CHAIRMAN

Ms. Branigan said that she is in discussions with the First Selectwoman about culling deer. She said that since the Town does not have a Deer Committee it is moot.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present this evening.

Ms. Swiatek distributed a meeting schedule for 2013.

ADJOURN MEETING

**** MS. FLYNN MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MR. MARCHESI SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services