

**TOWN OF DARIEN
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: Jane Branigan, Chairman; Susan Daly; Bob Marchesi;

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

OTHER:

CALL TO ORDER

There was no quorum, so the meeting was discussion only.

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2010

The approval of the minutes was not discussed as there was no quorum.

STATUS OF WEED BEACH PROJECT

Ms. Swiatek reviewed the latest update on the status of the Weed Beach project. She said that the tennis court fence at Cherry Lawn Park sustained some damage during the recent storm. There was a lot of erosion at Weed Beach, in the Jr. Sailing and boathouse area. The Senior Center had some damage but was able to open today in time to serve a St. Patrick's Day meal. She explained that there had been some erroneous information sent out regarding a stop being put on the Weed Beach project. The Weed Beach project is on the Board of Selectmen's meeting agenda for next Monday, March 22, 2010. Ms. Branigan invited the Commissioners to attend the meeting, along with members of the Playground by the Sound Committee. Ms. Swiatek said that she had met with 1st Selectman Campbell, Selectman Stevenson, and Ms. Parnon and reviewed all the latest information with them. It was agreed that the Town needs to give the Commission a timeframe.

Ms. Daly explained that she has received more money for the Playground by the Sound. The account has been closed out, so it was agreed to ask the donator to re-issue the check to the Town. It was mentioned that the donation can be used towards safety improvements in the boat launch area, possibly along with picnic tables and some signage.

**DISCUSS THE LIGHT AND ULTRA-LIGHT BOAT LAUNCH RAMP AT WEED
BEACH**

Ms. Swiatek said she has talked with the engineer regarding the boat ramp. She said they are working on how to make the turn-around improvement and the parking lot lines in the playground area.

BUDGET REQUEST FY 2011 STATUS

Ms. Swiatek distributed copies of the budget to the Commissioners. She said the Board of Selectmen has approved the budget. Some reductions were made in the Professional Services area. She said the most significant cut was to the beach cleanup.

REPORTS

a) Director

Ms. Swiatek said that work continues to be done at the Senior Center. Typically at this time of year, clean-up work begins on the parks and fields, but the clean-up from last week's storm took precedence. She mentioned that the new LED lights at Tilley Pond look great, and she suggested that the Commissioners drive by the park at night so they can see them. She said that they should expect to see a reduction in electricity usage by using the new LED lights. She is awaiting reimbursement from CL&P grant money to install the remaining lights at Tilley Pond.

b) Assistant Director

Mr. Coghlan said registration for the Spring/Summer programs began on March 3, 2010, and the numbers so far are comparable to last year. He said that they have half of the lifeguards from last year returning this year. He said the registration numbers for the soccer programs are very good.

c) Chairman

There was no Chairman report.

OTHER BUSINESS (TWO-THIRDS VOTE)

There was no Other Business to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Meeting April 21, 2010, 7:30 p.m. Darien Town Hall, Room 119

The meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr
Telesco Secretarial Services

