

**TOWN OF DARIEN  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2016**

**ATTENDANCE:** Mary Flynn, Chair, Mary Louise Morgan, Erika Morris, Susan Daly, Lorena Bora, Amy Doering, Dennis Conetta

**STAFF:** Pamela Gery, Parks and Recreation Director

**AUDIENCE:** Diane Conologue, Vice Chairman RTM Parks and Recreation Committee and Phyllis Hawkins, RTM Parks & Recreation Committee

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

Mrs. Flynn began the meeting by having a discussion about saving time by only making substantive changes to minutes rather than focusing on grammar and typos. She asked the Commission members to send typo/grammar comments to her ahead of the meeting. The rest of the Commission members agreed with this.

**APPROVAL OF JULY 20<sup>TH</sup> MINUTES**

Commission members made a few minor corrections and approved July minutes.

**\*\* MS. DOERING MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM JULY 20<sup>th</sup> AS AMENDED**

**\*\* MR. CONETTA SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**DARIEN BOAT CLUB TANK REPLACEMENT**

Dave Dever gave update on the tank replacement project for the Boat Club. They have accepted a bid from Island Pump & Tank and added a \$50,000 contingency to guarantee funds for the project. They will be installing a new 10,000 gallon tank and the project should take about 2 weeks from start to finish. Ms. Gery will write an approval letter to the Darien Boat Club relaying the Commission's unanimous vote of approval for the project.

## **DISCUSSION ON CHANGES TO THE PARKS & RECREATION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

A lengthy discussion was held around the proposed changes to the Recreation Rules and Regulations. The Commission agreed to the following changes:

- To strike “No persons shall bring into any park alcoholic beverages in kegs (equal to or greater than two (2) liters) without a permit issued pursuant to section 42-R31”
- To strike the word “Keg” throughout Sec. 42-R31 and replace with the word Alcohol, as this will now allow Department to require all permits applications facility rentals that intend on having alcohol in the Picnic area and Paddle Hut.
- To strike “Secondary use is as a base of operations for the Towns Summer Camp operated by the Darien Youth Commission” in Addendum #5 Weed Beach Warming Hut Rental Policy. Ms. Gery had confirmed that the Youth Commission does not use the facility for their summer camp program.
- To strike “24 hours” from Addendum # 5 Weed Beach Warming Hut Rental Policy IV section 6 and replace with “two weeks”. Ms. Gery stated that there simply wasn’t enough time to re-rent the facility and with all the administrative work behind the scenes that two weeks was more appropriate.
- To add “unless approved by Director” from Addendum # 5 Weed Beach Warming Hut Rental Policy III section a. This gives the office the ability to rent the facility more than once in a day if the Director feels that it is feasible.
- To strike “no children are allowed in facility while alcohol is present” from Addendum # 5 Weed Beach Warming Hut Rental Policy IV section 8. Ms. Gery said all rentals will need to obtain an Alcohol Permit that makes the renter sign off on a liability waiver that underage guests will not be permitted to drink. This also allows residents to have a get together and have all family invited.

The Commission also would like to have further discussions regarding the following subjects at the October meeting:

- Permitted dinghies at Pear Tree Beach for moored boat access
- Private Instruction

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mrs. Flynn opened the floor for Public Comment. No comments were made.

### **VOTE ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PARK & RECREATION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Commission members voted on the proposed changes.

**\*\* MS. MORRIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PARKS & RECREATION RULES AND REGULATIONS AS AMENDED**

**\*\* MS. DALY SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RFP FOR MASTER PARK PLAN**

A discussion was held regarding possible additions to the RFP. The Commission felt the changes discussed previously had been incorporated.

- \*\* MR. CONETTA MOVED TO APPROVE THE RFP FOR MASTER PARK PLAN**
- \*\* MS. BORA SECONDED**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## REPORTS

### Parks & Recreation Director and Assistant Director

Ms. Gery highlighted main events and programs from the month of August. She noted the fence replacement project that was finished at Holahan Field and the beautiful work that was done on the fields by the Park staff. Ms. Gery also stated that she was busy going through applications for the new position of Recreation Program Supervisor and they had been narrowed down to 5 and had just finished the interviewing process the night before. She hopes to have this position filled and starting the mid to end of October 2016.

### Parks & Recreation Chairman Report

Ms. Flynn reported to the Commission that she met with the Architectural Review Board who agreed that the Pear Tree gazebo should remain the forest green color, which had relevance among many who have grown up around this historic landmark. A short discussion took place on security at the parks and how our Police Department handles their routine checks on parks in town.

The next meeting will be October 19th, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall in room 119.

## ADJOURNMENT

- \*\* MR. CONETTA MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- \*\* MS. DOERING SECONDED.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Gery