

The Shelton Parks and Recreation Commission held a Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 17, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. at the Shelton Community Center.

Members present: Vice-Chairman David Zamba
Mary Cleveland
Joseph DeFillippo
Paul Gabor
Harry LaBonda
Carey Moran

Staff present: Ronald Herrick, Director
Dean Cawthra, Parks Superintendent
Ann Marie Boehlert, Aquatic Director

Members absent: Chairman John Papa (excused)
John Browne
Gary Cahill (excused)
Stanley Kudej (excused)
Robert Zuraw (excused)

CORRECTED MINUTES

Vice-Chairman David Zamba opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Vice Chairman David Zamba asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Commission on anything that is not on the agenda.

Joe Novak, lives in the White Hills, is a member of Boy Scout Troop # 63, addressed the Commission. He is here to take notes on an issue that has 2 different opinions.

Ronald Herrick suggested moving New Business that includes a request to sell two City properties off Old Stratford Road.

On a motion made by Carey Moran seconded by Mary Cleveland and Paul Gabor it was unanimously voted to move New Business up on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST OF THE CITY TO SELL TWO PROPERTIES OFF OF OLD STRATFORD ROAD

Vice Chairman David Zamba stated you should have in your package a request to sell 2 properties of Old Stratford Road. There is a map enclosed. This is Monty Blakeman's property, the Split Rock Project, stated Vice Chairman David Zamba. There is a small sliver of land approximately 1.43 acres right along Old Stratford Road. Mr. Blakeman owns the property that is adjacent to it. Vice Chairman David Zamba read from Mr. Blakeman's letter.

The Commission is charged with the decision as to whether this has any recreational use, stated Vice Chairman David Zamba. There is a discussion that includes Carey Moran, Harry LaBonda, Mary Cleveland and Paul Gabor.

On a motion made by Paul Gabor seconded by Joseph DeFillippo it was unanimously voted that the one property of off Old Stratford Road have no Parks & Recreational value.

JANUARY MINUTES

On a motion made by Joseph DeFillippo seconded by Paul Gabor it was unanimously voted to approve the January minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ronald Herrick read a letter from Diana Barry thanking him for the use of the White Hills Civic Club hall, he received a letter from the Make a Wish Foundation, (we made a donation that you are all aware of) and he read a letter from the YMCA concerning a grant for the skateboard park to purchase helmets.

STAFF REPORTS: **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ronald Herrick stated I will be going to A & T for a transfer into the Part-Time Account and the Programs Account.

The flooring material has been ordered for the weight room. Trips are going well.

There are LOCIP funds that we are trying to get for the fence for the Flag Football and we are hoping to use them for resurfacing all the Tennis Courts.

Shelton Life will have an article on Parks & Recreation and Carey Moran would like the concerts and fireworks added to that article.

Ronald Herrick asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

On a motion made by Mary Cleveland seconded by Carey Moran it was unanimously voted to go into Executive Session at 7:58 P.M.

On a motion made by Carey Moran seconded by Mary Cleveland it was unanimously voted to come out of Executive Session at 8:01 P.M.

PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

(SEE ATTACHED REPORT) Dean Cawthra stated they have gone out to bid for 2 trucks.

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AQUATIC DIRECTOR

(SEE ATTACHED REPORT)

Vice Chairman Zamba questioned about the 4 lanes for the Seals? Have we done this before, he questioned? I just said that if they are the High School kids that is o.k. but I have been noticing the kids are getting younger and younger. I would just like to keep it the high school kids because the younger never seem to have any parents around.

I would like to interject stated Mary Cleveland. This is not age specific. They are not the type of kids that would be running around they are very serious swimmers, she added.

On a motion made by Carey Moran seconded by Joseph DeFillippo it was unanimously voted to approve Staff Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GAZEBO:

Carey Moran gave Ronald Herrick 2 more contracts. There was one new band that Joseph DeFillippo had recommended and the gentlemen was very cooperative having had to change a date for me to accommodate someone else. Everyone has to go to at least three concerts this year, stated Vice Chairman David Zamba. The bids have gone out for the fireworks, he added.

FINANCE:

Paul Gabor stated he looked at the bills.

AD

Vice Chairman David Zamba stated that there will be the stuffing of donation envelopes in March. The members would like the record to show that they wish to have a reminder call for this activity. You have to be here a half an hour before, stated Vice Chairman David Zamba.

What about our walk around asked Carey Moran? We usually do it in March but the weather is usually bad maybe we can do it later, stated Vice Chairman David Zamba.

OPEN SPACE

Vice Chairman David Zamba reported that is was the same information we are receiving here. It concerns people wanting to purchase this little slivers of land. We are dealing with a lot of that.

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The subdivisions have slowed down, even though there are so many of them getting sensational press right now, because of the articles the builders have slowed down, as well. The time of year is included in that.

What is your thought on all those little sliver of lands, asked Joseph DeFillippo? From an Open Space point of view, we look at them individually but we don't think they ever should be sold, answered Vice Chairman David Zamba. We looked at Pine Rock Park and thought these people will never sell them. Then they go back to a map from the 1930's and re-subdivide them and put something up. What the Open Space tries to tell these other Committees is if you are going to sell these don't allow any structures to be put up, he added.

On a motion made by Paul Gabor seconded by Joseph DeFillippo it was unanimously voted to accept all Committee Reports.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Papa is out sick. Vice Chairman David Zamba stated the only thing he wanted to speak about is signage at Constitution Park. What we don't have is any centralized signage for our parks. People then could look see the name of the park on the front and build in our ordinances and rules on the back. It has to be strong enough to withstand the kind of graffiti it will get so I will check with some Sign Companies, he added.

I heard the flag bent up there, stated Harry LaBonda. The flag was too big, stated Vice Chairman David Zamba. We ordered a new one and we will be paying for it, added Ronald Herrick.

OLD BUSINESS

Mary Cleveland presented Ronald Herrick with a plaque from the High School Boys Soccer Team thanking them for the use of the parking lot for a car wash. We really appreciated it and we booked it again for this year, she added.

On a motion made by Mary Cleveland seconded by Carey Moran it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diana Barry

Clerk

1. Committee Reports
2. Chairman's Report
3. Old Business
4. New Business
 - A. Request of the City to sell two properties off of Old Stratford Road