

The Shelton Parks and Recreation Commission held a meeting on December 17th, 2009 at the Shelton Community Center.

Members present were: Chairman John Papa
Allyson Burke
Joseph DeFilippo
Paul Gabor
Michelle Pagliaro Haywood
Stanley Kudej
Harry LaBonda
David Zamba
Robert Zuraw

Members absent were: Gary Cahill

Staff members present: Dean Cawthra, Parks Superintendent
Ronald Herrick, Director Parks & Recreation

Staff absent: Ann Marie Boehlert, Aquatic Director
James Mastrony, Recreation Supervisor

Chairman Papa opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PORTION: There was no one from the public to address the Commission.

NOVEMBER MINUTES:

Robert Zuraw asked that the November minutes be corrected on page 2 to reflect that the fence at East Village was not fixed.

On a motion made by Robert Zuraw seconded by Joseph DeFilippo it was unanimously voted to approve the November minutes with the correction as stated above.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ronald Herrick gave David Zamba some correspondence with regard to the concerts.

Ronald Herrick then read a letter from Terry Gallagher with regard to the help Paul and Dave provided at the rec. path on Lane Street.

Ronald Herrick read a letter from Marilyn Gannon with regard to the help Richard Reyes and Joseph Puopolo provided with the Holiday Decorations.

Ronald Herrick continued with two letters from the Conservation Committee. He read one that Teresa Gallagher sent out on the graffiti at the building below the dam. Art, Charlie and I painted, stated Ronald Herrick. The second one is concerning evergreen branches in a pile at Capewell Park. The property is listed as Parks and Rec. property.

PAGE 2

Ronald Herrick stated that he wrote back and Conservation has nothing to do with the parcels that are Parks and Rec. A neighbor cut some large branches and dropped them there. He should not be doing that. Teresa Gallagher also commented on stakes on the fields and Ronald Herrick mentioned those are for the extra fields.

STAFF REPORTS

PARKS DIRECTOR:

Ronald Herrick stated memberships are listed.

Every year we talk with the Police about opening and closing the parks. Every year we close Riverview for the season and I want to know if you want to wait to do it at a later date. We did do it December the 16th last year. We close it and take the portolets out. If we lock it then it is done and the Police don't have to open and close it. We could leave it open stated Chairman Papa. The problem with that is that they park on the road then if it is closed, stated Stanley Kudej.

There was a discussion with regard to a nativity on the green. We had gone through this years ago. Anyone wanting to put something up on the green then would come to Ronald Herrick for an application.

The deposits have changed a bit. Classes and programs are down.

I pretty much have doubled the budget. There are 7 line items that have gone up and 7 line items that went down, stated Ronald Herrick.

We don't know what is happening with American League and Pop Warner. So we will give the money to whoever is there and if they unite then the money still will be there, stated Chairman Papa.

We were cut in payroll \$60,000.00 in full-time pay. Not the position, that position still exists in the Union. It is going to look like a big request. I kept the same position and Union raises are in effect. All those positions are not filled, stated Robert Zuraw. No, stated Ronald Herrick. They are still recognized positions stated Ronald Herrick. This is a conversation we have all the time, added Robert Zuraw. I would like to fill them, he added. Not to put them in would be a mistake, stated Ronald Herrick. We were also cut in part-time by \$20,000.00, added Chairman Papa. We got cut \$80,000.00 he added.

Our next meeting is going to be in January and we have to meet the second week, stated Chairman Papa. Ronald Herrick stated we need to have a wish list, so to say. We have done things on the 6 year list, stated Chairman Papa. Michelle Pagliaro Haywood stated we have gyms that we can't use. There are warehouses in Trumbull in Monroe.

PARKS SUPERINTENDENT:

Chairman Papa stated that Dean has started clearing trees at the Dog Park. I see that Joe has been doing painting up here and doing some work at City Hall, stated Chairman Papa.

PAGE 3

Ronald Herrick stated that they check the playgrounds and they have removed the old playground at Long Hill. Where did it go, he questioned? The dump, stated Dean Cawthra. That was publicized that the equipment at Ripton is too big at Long Hill, stated Robert Zuraw. They could take one piece out stated Chairman Papa. Or extend it out by one piece, stated Robert Zuraw.

AQUATIC DIRECTOR: Ann Marie Boehlert was not present and no report was filed.

On a motion made by Michelle Pagliaro Haywood seconded by Stanley Kudej it was unanimously voted to approve all Staff Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE:

Paul Gabor didn't have a chance to look at the bills.

GAZEBO:

Ronald Herrick stated we get calls all the time. The State of Connecticut has a program that has approved bands and if you book one of the bands will give you a percentage of that cost, stated David Zamba. The gentlemen that brought this to David Zambas attentions band is one on the list. They(the State of Connecticut) have cut alot so even now, questioned Chairman Papa? We would have to check on that added David Zamba.

The 4th of July falls on Sunday and would the holiday be on Monday or be on Friday. I would propose to do the fireworks on Friday the 2nd and raindate for Saturday. We won't clean up to the 6th, stated Ronald Herrick. We won't go in on over time, he added. Lets find out the holiday, added David Zamba. Means our guys won't be back to Tuesday and if it rains we are messed up anyway, stated Ronald Herrick. How bad was the clean up, asked Chairman Papa? It is a mess no matter what, he added.

Does anyone know when school ends, asked David Zamba? We should start on June 23 with the 18th being the last concert, he added. Allyson Burke stated we were talking about having a Shelton Idol concert. You would have to interview them. It is a lot of work. There were 3 judges for the lipsync, stated Ronald Herrick. The lipsync is a little outdated, added Allyson Burke. There was a lot of work with the lipsync concert stated Ronald Herrick.

FIELD MAINTENANCE:

Stanley Kudej stated that Long Hill is almost at a stand still because of the weather. The drainage is not all the way in. It is about half in. The ballfields have been laid out, he added. It is all depending on the weather. Have highway and bridges been approached about the curbing, asked Robert Zuraw?

PARK IMPROVEMENT:

PAGE 4

Robert Zuraw stated you have a letter. The letter is from Mr. Geissler, stated Ronald Herrick.

Allyson Burke asked what about LaCrosse? We are meeting with the Mayor next month. They are all set where they are now, stated Ronald Herrick. They just want to do improvements. They won't do improvements up there where the pipeline is and parking is an issue, stated Chairman Papa. We want to talk to the Mayor about the Klapik property.

On a motion made by David Zamba seconded by Paul Gabor it was unanimously reported to accept all Committee Reports.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Papa stated we did have a meeting prior to this meeting about the Dog Park. I have met with the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen. There are LOCIP funds that are very short. What I suggested is that we will have a fundraiser to make some money. We will sell bricks with your dogs name on it.

Peggy Camp is a PTA Mom at Mohegan School and the PTA sponsored raising funds for different functions, the homeless, or whatever. The kids decided to raise money for the Dog Park and they raised \$300.00. The PTA matched it so we got \$600.00, stated Chairman Papa. Ronald Herrick and I will be going there tomorrow to accept the donation, he added. Then we will advertise in the newspaper for additional donations. Harry LaBonda asked if there is a target date for that to open? Next summer, stated Ronald Herrick. They started to clear and plans were made, he added. Is the house still up, asked Robert Zuraw? We have nothing to do with the house, added Chairman Papa. If the people want to walk the trails with a dog, I don't know understand the opposition, he added.

We have to pick a date for our January meeting. The normal date would have been January 21st but the Budget has to be done by the 15th. So Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of the week of the 11th. What about the 7th, asked Chairman Papa? How would January 7th be, asked the Chairman?

On a motion made by Robert Zuraw seconded by David Zamba it was unanimously voted to change the date of January 2010 meeting from the 21st to the 7th of January and that meeting would be a Special meeting at 7:30 P.M.

The Chairman handed out Christmas Party invitations for his house on the 17th.

OLD BUSINESS: There was nothing to report under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

PAGE 5

On a motion made by David Zamba seconded by Allyson Burke it was unanimously

voted to nominate John Papa for Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

On a motion made by Paul Gabor seconded by Robert Zuraw it was unanimously voted to nominate David Zamba for Vice-Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Ronald Herrick stated I want to discuss the cleaning service. I want to let everyone know what is going on. The cleaning service at the pool has been very good and even the Senior members in the morning comment. There is a women who works for us 5-9:30 then she works for the service after that at the pool for the cleaning service. The contract we have started March 1st and there is no date to end. If the price doesn't change they don't need a date for the contract to end. She is good and I know she wants more money. She makes \$13 an hour and she will get a raise in January. The cleaning service is about \$42. a day, stated Ronald Herrick. Our biggest problem is to make sure they keep up, stated Robert Zuraw. Why don't we just say pay her more or we end the contract, he added. We can always opt out, but we kicked around having her just do it for us, stated Ronald Herrick. If you do the math that would be that would leave about \$600 for supplies, he added. The problem is that we can't keep her on this side because it was over 40 hours a week. So we have to do something with the contract with Corporation Counsel.

Chairman Papa stated we were paying \$17,000 and now we have a better deal and they are doing a better job. You can't give her job because it is over 40 hours, added Ronald Herrick. Robert Zuraw stated talk to the Company and tell them to give her more money. We have no problem, stated Chairman Papa. I would not change anything, he added. Say we keep the same service and she leaves, stated Chairman Papa. She is a custodian at night for us right now, added Ronald Herrick.

End of Side 1A of 1B, tape 1 of 1 at 8:15 P.M.

There was no end date on the contract, added Ronald Herrick.

On a motion made by Robert Zuraw seconded by David Zamba it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by
Diana Barry