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Meeting #130

A meeting of the Young Park Commission was held Tuesday May 15, 2018 at the offices of the Pine Orchard Association.

Present:

Commissioners-

Ken Graham--Chairman, Paul Blackstone, Geoff Hotz, Rich Rosen—Secretary,
Robin Sandler

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM.

The minutes from the January 28, 201 meeting were discussed. Ken made a motion to approve. Paul seconded. All were in favor.

Warden Report:

Park warden Dale Welsh's report was discussed, a copy of which is attached. Two trees have fallen into Young Pond and four into Mirror Pond. Ken reports that Branford DPW will remove them when the land is drier. The annual tristate bike trek to raise money for ALS is fast approaching: June 23. In addition, the Branford Recreation Department successfully held its annual dog Frisbee contest on May 5, 2018 with participants from at least six states. Thank you Dale for all of your help with these endeavors and all of the other work that you do. Finally, Ken installed a new map box and is working to repair a trash container door. Thank you, Ken.

Financial Report:

Future costs include dog bags maintenance to the park entrance and other areas including a few small, dead trees, brush, and some hanging branches. Rich proposed spending up to \$1200 to do so. Robin seconded, all but Paul were in favor; Paul abstained. The financial report continues to show that Young Park conservatively maintains itself on a balanced budget.

Mirror Lake:

Ken reports that the application for copper sulfate in the 2018 application was approved on May 14, 2018. Sonar may be needed as well depending on the condition of the lake. Funds to apply the chemicals will need to come from a nearby homeowner.

Old Business:

The Commission continues to hope that the stone wall along the main road is repaired soon.

Ken again discussed the idea of cleaning up the foundations on the park property. At this time Ken is more interested in working on the lower west foundation. He may undertake some or all of the project on his own.

There is currently no money to purchase some or all of the trees discussed at prior meeting.

New Business:

Robin asked if we could consider some benches for people to sit on while at Young's Park. There was a discussion regarding past benches. They were sometimes vandalized at which point disposal become an issue. Branford Rec. may have some benches that we could acquire. The Commission asked for pictures before deciding. Areas in which to install possible benches were also discussed. Ken does not want any under the tree in the center of the field nor does he want any other items such as plastic chairs to be left nearby. Benches adjacent to the stone wall as well as near the pond in different locations were also considered. Geoff made a motion to further consider benches at the next meeting upon viewing pictures of same. Robin seconded. All were in favor.

Geoff discussed fishing line receptacles. The Commission agreed that they were a good investment to help various forms of wildlife. Locations were agreed upon: the spillway, footbridge, Mirror Lake, and on the back side of the pond, near the big stones on the Land Trust side. Geoff made a motion to purchase 4 with a P.O. through the town hall. Rich seconded and all approved.

Geoff asked the Commission to approve a welcome sign on the north side; tabled until the next meeting.

Finally, Ken reminded the Commission that he is resigning as president at the end of the fiscal year. Ken will write and submit this fiscal year's annual report, continue on the next phase of the tree planting project even if it goes beyond June 30, 2018, and complete the Nature Trail project update. Ken has planned and prepared the Commission for his resignation for over a year. Ken has contributed his time, leadership and expertise for decades to Young Park. He graciously offered his services when available going forward. Ken Graham is appreciated and will be sorely missed! The office of secretary is voted upon first in writing. Ken nominated Rich Rosen. Paul seconded. No one else ran for secretary. Rich is re-elected.

Next, the office of president is voted upon in writing. Robin nominated Geoffrey Hotz. Paul seconded. No one else ran for the office of president. Geoff is elected.

Ken wanted the minutes to reflect that both were unanimous. We will also need another Commissioner from the Pine Orchard district. Commissioners will look for candidates.

Next Meeting:

September 18, 2018 Tuesday at the Pine Orchard Association offices at 180 Pine Orchard Road, Branford, CT 06405 commencing at 7:30 PM.

Geoff made a motion to adjourn and Rich seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Rich Rosen, Secretary

WARDEN REPORT

MAY 15 2018

ALL THE TRAILS ARE FREE OF DEBRIS. WE STILL HAVE A FEW TREES THAT HAVE FALLEN INTO THE POND TO BE REMOVED. KEN HAS INSTALLED A NEW MAP BOX FOR US AND IS WORKING ON THE REPAIR OF THE TRASH CONTAINER DOOR THAT WAS BROKEN OFF.

WE HOSTED THE ANNUAL DOG FRISBEE EVENT ON SATURDAY MAY 5TH. EVERYTHING WENT WELL. THE RECREATION DEPT HAD 23 APPLICANTS APPLY AND PARTICIATED IN THE EVENT. VICTOR AMATRUDA IS THINKING ABOUT HAVING FOOD TRUCKS NEXT YEAR AND MAKING IT AN ALL DAY EVENT. HE WILL BE CONTACTING THE COMMISSION WITH FUTHER DETAILS.

KEN IS CHECKING THE PARK BY-LAWS TO SEE IF THE SALE OF FOOD IS PERMITTED. HE ALSO WANTED ME TO THANK THE COMMISSION FOR LETTING US USE THE PARK FOR THEIR EVENT.

THE NEXT EVENT WILL BE THE TRI-STATE BIKE TREK FUNDRAISER FOR ALS. THE PARK WILL BE CLOSED AT 12:00 NOON TO THE PUBLIC FOR THE VOLUNTEERS TO SET UP THE REST SITE FOR THE BIKERS. THEY ALWAYS LEAVE THE PARK IN GREAT CONTIDTION WHEN THEY ARE DONE AND REALLY APPRICIATE US LETTING THEM USE IT FOR THE REST STOP.