

**Branford Board of Recreation
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

Members Present:

Paul Criscuolo-Chairman
Helen (Bimmie) Herget-Clerk
Bill O'Brien
Deborah Conklin
Jeanne Crowley

Staff Present:

Alex Palluzzi Jr.-Director
Dale Izzo-Assistant Director

I Call To Order:

This meeting was called to order at 7:04 by Chairman, Paul Criscuolo. In attendance were First Selectman, Jamie Cosgrove and the following members of the Parker Park Commission: Matt Radulski, Annie Redman, Al Russell, Penny O'Neill, and Ed Masotta. Introductions were made all around.

II Approval of January 11, 2017 meeting minutes:

Motion made by Deborah Conklin and seconded by Bimmie Herget to approve January 11, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

III The Chairman asked to move the Parker Park Commission discussion to the Beginning of this meeting so that the First Selectman and some of the Commission members could go on to other commitments and the Rec Board members agreed.

Matt Raduski began a review of Parker Park which is the grounds and parking lot at Branford Point Beach. He explained that the Commission was coming to discuss joining the care of the park and managing the access to the park and the parking lot with the Park and Recreation Dept.

Their available funds would join with our funds but would be listed separately. Essentially, the Commission is finding that with the increase usage of the Park, they are finding that they have insufficient needed equipment, personnel and security persons. Thus, by joining forces with Park and Recreation each of these aspects of providing adequate service could be provided.

The Parker Park Commission would still oversee their responsibilities and would come to discuss with the Recreation Board whenever they needed to do so.

Initially, Al Russell and Alex Palluzzi Jr. would meet jointly with the Board of Finance and the RTM regarding the financial arrangements agreed upon at earlier meetings.

Al Russel gave a fascinating history of Branford Point with a picture of the Branford Point Hotel and the notice in the Branford Opinion dated June 21, 1912 when it was taken over by the Town of Branford. This Clerk will meet with the Historical Society to see about getting a written account for the public to see. Al noted that many people request the use of the park for gatherings from weddings to group picnics.

Each of the Boards shared their respective ways of supporting staff personnel to accomplish their activities and programs. We are looking forward to working with the Commission for the benefit of the people of Branford.

III Correspondence:

None

IV Public Comment:

None other than the previously described meeting with the Parker Park Commission.

V Director's Report:

Capital and Facilities Report

In Progress:

1. Community House Addition & Renovation (pending start date, June 1, 2017)
2. Flax Mill Soccer Field Parking Lot Renovation, (delayed, Spring 2017)

On The Horizon:

1. Hammer Field Playground Phase II (toddlers -5 year olds) installation. (pending location)
2. Hammer Field Skate Park relocation. (pending location)
3. Vet's Park Parking Lot Capital Renovation. (Spring 2017)
4. Bayview Park, Pardee Park, Basketball Courts Renovation.
5. Branford Hills Basketball Courts Capital Renovation. (Spring 2017)
6. Foote Park Long Term Capital Project Plan. (continuing, Spring 2017)

Foote Park Grant completed and handed in. Looks likely.

VI Assistant Director's Report:

Programs:

Spring Registration of Program Listings coming out very soon.

March 2, 2017 Teen Travel Registration

March 2, 2017 Spring Registration

March 2, 2017 Hospice Pool Registration

Jazz Concert:

Sponsors are coming forth.

Program is just about confirmed.

VII Old Business:

Dale was thanked for having organized a most delightful celebration retirement party for James Tucker.

Dale indicated that packing up the Community House is progressing.

Bimmie passed on appreciation from Joe Herget of the revised Winter Programs Registration Sheet which he found easier to read.

VIII New Business:

Alex went over the Recreation Budget and answered all questions. Extensive discussion ensued. Recreation Department is once again presenting a frugal financial budget for a carefully thoughtfully planned year of construction.

Next Meeting:

March 8, 2017

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Jeanne Crowley and second by Deborah Conklin at 8:55.