

Meeting #128

A meeting of the Young Park Commission was held Tuesday September 26, 2017 at the offices of the Pine Orchard Association.

Present:

Commissioners-
Ken Graham, Chairman
Paul Blackstone
Geoff Hotz
Rich Rosen, Secretary

And Dale Welsh- Park Warden
Seth Chaucer

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The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM.

The minutes from the May 16, 2017 meeting were not available. Ken made a motion to postpone the review of same. Geoff seconded. All were in favor. The May 16, 2017 minutes will be reviewed at the next January, 2018 meeting.

Warden Report:

Park warden Dale Welsh's report was read, a copy of which is attached. Seth worked hard to paint and refurbish the main entrance park sign. Thank you, Seth. The annual tristate bike trek to raise money for ALS research occurred on June 24, 2017. The Branford Recreation Department held its annual dog Frisbee contest. It had been delayed but ultimately took place on July 8, 2017. The Branford Animal Shelter held its children's summer camp at the park for 6 weeks. All groups thanked the Young Park Commission. Finally, our map box was vandalized and will not be replaced at this time.

Financial Report:

Future costs include maintenance to the park including shrub and bush work and possibly the arborist. The financial report again shows Young Park conservatively maintaining itself on a balanced budget.

Mirror Lake:

The application for the 2018 application will be mailed by Ken. Funds to apply the chemicals will need to come from the Pine Orchard Association and/or nearby homeowners. Ken will create a summary overview as to how to secure the permit each year. Geoff pointed out that there was much underbrush along the road by Muir Lake. It is okay to cut it back.

Old Business: Past meetings with the D.O.T. yielded no results on either the stone wall nor on filling the pothole by the spillway. The town did a good job mowing the upper meadow in July, 2017 and Dale will contact them regarding another mowing at this time. Ken discussed the idea of cleaning up the foundations on the park property. Some foundations offer advantages over others in terms of cleaning them up. Ken made a motion to focus first on the small foundation in the upper meadow. Geoff seconded. All approved. More discussion will occur at the next meeting.

New Business:

Ken first met with First Selectman Cosgrove recently to get town help fixing the stone wall adjacent to the road. In addition, Ken met with DPW and Riccio Construction to discuss same. In addition to preparing a summary packet as to how to apply for the annual Mirror Lake permit, Ken will prepare a document listing the major activities that the commission addresses each year such as the many activities, maintenance, and the financial reports and bookkeeping work. Extensive discussion on allocating money for various projects. Proposals were made by Geoff to allocate up to \$100 for further signage repair materials, \$150 donation to the Ag. Station, and up to \$400 for various maintenance work to the park. Geoff made a motion that was seconded by Ken. All approved except Paul who abstained. Geoff had spoken to a representative from the DPW about a tree in the pond. However, it is still there. Ken believes it is on Land Trust property. He will reach out to them. Ken sent a list of past and possible tree plantings and locations to the Commission. Only native species were being considered. Further discussion at the next meeting. Ken will copy some Young Park historical letters and give them to the team at the next meeting.

Future Meetings:

January 30, May 15, and September 18, 2018 all Tuesdays at the Pine Orchard Association offices at 180 Pine Orchard Road, Branford, CT 06405 with each meeting commencing at 7:30 PM.

Geoff made a motion to adjourn and Ken seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Rich Rosen, Secretary

September 26, 2017