

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF BROOKFIELD, HELD AT THE TOWN BEACH BUILDING, AUGUST 24, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT; Joei Grudzinski, Vice Chairman; Bryan Chnowski, Ed Butt, Renee Santiago, John Mangold, Dennis DiPinto, Director, Elaine Rajcula, Secretary, Sue Slater, Selectman.

ABSENT: R. Blick, C. Dunn

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting - June 2** - were accepted as presented upon a motion made by R. Santiago, seconded by B. Chnowski. Passed.

**Public Comment** – Correspondence from Marni McNuff, to the Director, and to Steve Dunn, First Selectman, and others, concerning the basketball court at Cadigan. She is concerned that during the last few football practices she attends evenings on Mondays through Fridays, she has noticed that men were smoking pot on the Cadigan basketball courts. She had called the Police Department and they immediately came to the Park. Soon after there was an altercation in the parking lot of men who had been playing Basketball. Mrs. McNuff asks why the field lights shut down at 8:50 p.m. and the Basketball courts stay open until 11:00 p.m. She is concerned that every time practice is about to be over the lights go out, which causes a problem with football practice as the kids are putting the equipment away and gather their things to leave, which causes safety issues. A similar letter was received from Gina Sacharewitz stating the same incidents of the basketball players. D. DiPinto sent back replies to both ladies, stating what is being done in the short term, effective as of today, August 24<sup>th</sup>, by turning off basketball lights and closing courts after dark. He is seeking a capable person to monitor the courts after 6:00 p.m. and before dark. In the meantime the courts will be limited to half court play. This problem will be reviewed by the P & R Commission with assistance of the Police Department. Concerning the football field lights, they are controlled by Pop Warner personnel on-site with a key to turn off and on. He suggests both ladies talk with the Pop Warner administration. He also states that the police should be called if anything is not right in the park.

Discussion was held by the Commission concerning these possible issues. The Director stated the lights will be turned back on at a future date once the policy is further discussed. It is not a long term plan. J. Mangold stated if anyone sees this happening, call the Police Dept. dispatch. R. Santiago thought it should be up to the neighbors. S. Slater, Board of Selectmen liaison, suggested having a sign stating if something happens to call the Police. Chnowski suggested lights go off at cut-off time. The Commission agreed to both.

**Recreation Supervisor's Report** – Mary Knox – A very successful camp season is wrapping up. More than 1,600 children ages 3.5 through high school in a variety of traditional day camps, sports and specialty camps. She would like to recognize the following people for their outstanding leadership this summer: Camp Pee Wee and Camp Summer Better Than Others – Director: Matt Consalvo, Head Counselors: Austin Pacific and Tori Consalvo; Camp Voyager – Director: Rachel Korb; Camp Cadicipioa – Director: Missy Pierce. The Town Beach has been running smoothly under Waterfront

Director - Kristen Faucher, and new Assistant Director Jerry Kochman. The Brookfield Muskrats Swim Team session ended August 7 and swimming lessons on August 8. Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> is the last day of operation and we will be closed August 29 through Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The USTA Junior Tennis season closed the end of July for 10 and under; 12 and under 12 and under and 16 and under. With P & R and USTA in 2010, the program has grown to 40-50 children playing.

The 16 and under team was even invited to the State Championships this year. The 11 week Concert Series, three outdoor movies, tennis lessons for adults, Singing and Signing with Ms. Janine at the Bandstand, Total Sports Squirts, Parent/Child Sports Squirts, Watercolor for adults, a CT. Lighthouse Cruise trip. and a new Junior Golf League with Sunset Hill, completed the summer. Her report also included a Summer summary list of all camps including Swim lessons, the Swim Team, Sport and Specialty Camps, Pee Wee, Camp Summer Better Than Others, Camp Cadocopia (2), Voyager, and CIT including the total participants for each camp for 2016, 2015, 2014, and 2013. Also included were the Beach Passes, Boat Passes and Tennis Passes. Said report is on file in the Parks & Recreation office for review. J. Grudzinsky noted it has been a great season. D. DiPinto stated that Mary Knox does a tremendous job as Recreation Supervisor. He asked that the Commission review the report, and address it at the next meeting.

**Monthly Financial Report** – D. DiPinto – No report this month.

### **Old Business**

**Greenway Update** - D. DiPinto – Everything must be just right before paying the construction company. The Director is the Town's representative on this project. The shoulders of the greenway are now being mowed once every two weeks. At this time we are looking towards a substantial completion date of October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**Parks Reinvestment - Phase 1 - Cadigan Tennis Courts** – D. DiPinto –A contract will be signed for the court installer to fix a few areas on the courts as well as to renew the 20 year warrantee on the concrete and 10 year warrantee on the court surfacing starting now.

**Parks Reinvestment - Phase 2 –Beach Drainage & Park Gate** – D. DiPinto reported that everything has been completed.

**Budget Review - Parks Department** - 1 Capital item purchased off the state bid list so far. The zero turn mower was recently purchasesd

**Greenway Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – D. DiPinto** - A new date has to be set for the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Greenway. In early September the Commission will meet to discuss it.

**Adjournment** – A motion was made by R. Santiago to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by E. Butt. Passed.

The next meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission will be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. If you cannot attend the meeting please call the P & R office at 203-775-7321.