

May 2016 Minutes

The Litchfield Parks and Recreation Commission met for their regular meeting on Monday, May 23, 2016. In attendance were: Commission Chairman Jim Keller; commissioners Lisa Bauer, Pam Orde, Ray Schmid, Ed Fabbri and Litchfield Parks and Recreation Director, Brent Hawkins.

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Pam made a motion to approve, Ray seconded. The motion passed.

Monthly Budget Report – The report was available for all commissioners to review.

Comment from the Public – None

Commissioner's Report – Ray wants to add a Karaoke machine to the needs list for summer camp.

Correspondence – A letter was sent to Leo Paul, Jr. and the Board of Selectmen from Sportsmen's of Litchfield requesting use of Town Beach on June 16 for a "Paddle Board and Kayak Demo Day" from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Leo has forwarded it to the Commission for an opinion on the request. The Commission discussed at length weighing the pros and cons of allowing this type of event. The consensus is to allow the Sportsmen's of Litchfield to use the facility with a list of conditions. This list will be sent to the Leo and the Board of Selectmen for their discussion and final approval at their next meeting. (see attached letter for conditions)

Old Business: Northfield Community Field – Brent told the board that the new Public Works Director, Raz Alexe, is working closely with him in designing a plan to accommodate the Commission's requirements. He hopes to have the bids out by the end of June and of finishing the project by August.

Litchfield Community Field – Public Works Director Alexe plans on writing a separate bid for Community Field, including the basketball court repurposing, the extension of the baseball fences, and some drainage work for both little league fields. Director Alexe's plan is to go out to bid at the same time as the Northfield project. For safety reasons, Ed suggests adding a higher (8') fence for the left field side of Ripley Field. He is also concerned about a large tree next to the tennis courts which is dying and also a safety issue. Brent is to speak with the Tree Warden about taking that tree down for safety, and to "limb up" the trees by the ball fields to prevent them being climbed on and possibility of limbs breaking someone getting injured.

The bathrooms continue to be a concern and Brent has spoken with Tri-Town and the Town Constables to make the locking of the facility consistent so the vandalism can be stopped.

Town Beach – The STEAP grant money is supposed to still be available and part of it can be used to raze the old changing room building at Town Beach. Brent was asked to inquire if the money is still actually available and if it can be used for the demo of the building. Director Alexe will decide if the Town Crew can do the work or if it will have to go out to bid.

Spring and Summer Brochure – The new version is out after OWTS published it. It has been distributed to the schools and it is on the Park and Rec and Litchfield School's websites.

New Business: Summer Camp Happenings – Brent read a list of the many and various events slated for summer camp. Once he has nailed down all the field trips, etc. a calendar will be put out for the public.

Summer Concerts: Brent reviewed the schedule of artists for the summer and the list is sure to have people wanting to come to the green on Wednesday evenings!!

Director's Report – Brent emailed all the Commissioner's a copy for their inspection.

Adjournment: Lisa made a motion to adjourn, Ray seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

J. Brent Hawkins, Director