

**SUFFIELD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
September 9, 2015**

The Suffield Parks & Recreation Commission held its regular meeting on Wednesday, September 9, 2015, in the lower level conference room, Town Hall, 83 Mountain Rd., Suffield, CT.

ATTENDANCE:Lou Casinghino, Chairman
.....Cindy Nicholson, Vice Chairman
.....Jay Bombard
.....Leeayn Burke
.....Brian Casinghino
.....David Rusnock

ABSENT:Kerri Milne, Clerk
.....Amy Egan

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:Wendy J. LaMontagne, Director

Lou called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

MINUTES: Cindy made a motion to accept the minutes. Brian seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE Wendy received an email from Bill Clark. Bill has resigned from the commission and wishes everyone the best.

Jack Muska from the Rotary Club contacted Wendy regarding their Giving Fund Committee. Jack said that they are looking for a big project. Wendy suggested a playscape for the Bridge Street Community Center and Jack said this is the type of project they are looking for. Wendy said that she is throwing this out to the commission as the Rotary does not need an answer immediately. Wendy said another project could be out at Babbs – possibly a pavilion /shelter. Wendy asked the commission to think about projects.

Brian said that he felt this should be in the form of a motion. Brian made a motion that the Parks and Rec Commission make a request for a contribution from the Rotary Club to be appropriated toward a playscape at Bridge Street Community Center. Cindy seconded the motion. The commission discussed the motion. The vote was yes from all members. Wendy and Brian will work on the wording of the request.

The Health Department contacted Wendy in regard to bike and pedestrian pathways. They are looking for volunteers for a count of bikes and pedestrians on the trails. Wendy

reviewed the dates and times that they are looking for volunteers. Wendy will send the link if any commission members are interested in volunteering. The commission discussed the trails and what the count will be used for.

Wendy passed out the Fall brochure and thanked the staff for the great new programs. Wendy asked the commission members for help in passing out the brochures to local businesses and schools. Wendy thanked the members who took the brochures.

The Annual Report for 2014/2015 is due and if anyone wants anything included, please contact Wendy before September 16.

PROGRAM REPORTS: No comments

OLD BUSINESS:

Road Race: The road race is this Saturday and there are 100 pre-registered runners. Wendy said that this was expected with the new on-line registration. Wendy reviewed the schedule for commissioners who will be helping out. Wendy also asked commission members to bring ice as the ice machine at the school is broke.

Soccer: Wendy said that 65 coaches attended the coach's meeting. Wendy thanked Cindy and Leeayn who also attended. Wendy said that Dan Ledger is coordinating the parents who need changes from the schedule they have been assigned to. Wendy said that the new shirts are coming and practices have started.

Jay asked about the girl in the 7th or 8th grade. Wendy said that she checked with the parent and she is playing with the 5th graders. Wendy reviewed the surrounding towns and what they are doing with the older players, some do not have teams as they do not have children registered or parent coaches. Wendy said that our 5th & 6th grade players are playing co-ed and there have been no complaints from parents.

Bridge Street School: Lou said that October 8 will be an extremely important day for the department. Lou reviewed different ways of getting residents to come and vote for the project. Lou said that he wanted to point out several people who have worked for this project: Krystal Holmes, Beth Chafetz, Cindy Nicholson, Leeayn Burke, Brian Casinghino and Wendy. The commission discussed the original meetings and the people who attended and helped get things started.

The commission discussed the different ways of getting the vote out, both Lou's suggestions and suggestions from Krystal Holmes.

Lou asked about using the Parks and Recreation Department e-mail blast list to promote getting people out for the bonding vote. The commission discussed whether this is ethical, legal and how it could be written to be neutral. Brian will help write up a neutral email to send out after the Town Attorney is contacted and asked his opinion on the legality of using the e-mail blast list.

NEW BUSINESS: - None

ADJOURNMENT: Brian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jay seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Scheitlin, recording secretary for
Kerri Milne, Clerk