

## Park & Recreation Commission Meeting

November 3, 2008

7:02 pm

### Attendance:

Robert G. Potter, Director  
Joseph Schettino, Chairman  
Harry Swaun, V. Chairman  
Michael Sutyla

Robert Neri  
Bonnie Finkeldey  
Linda Diamond (absent)  
Robert Karcich

### Minutes:

Mr. Sutyla motioned to approve the minutes of October 7, 2008 as submitted. Mr. Neri seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Correspondence:** None

### Sub-Committee Reports:

**Decorate Your neighborhood for the Holidays:** Mrs. Finkeldey gave a brief report on the meeting held by the sub-committee (Finkeldey, Diamond & Ruggiero). Each Commissioner was given a copy of the flier, designed by Lois, which will go home with the students. Bonnie asked the Commissioners to be Judges. The Judging will take place between Dec. 16 – 18, pending weather. We have 3 Judging Categories: Whimsical, Typical New England Village & Other (With Lights or Without Lights). The Sub-committee will meet to put together a travel route for judging.

### Old Business:

**Site Walks:** Mr. Schettino asked if there was anything that needed to be discussed tonight? The P & R director and the director of Public Works will go over the list together and then come back to the Commission with a plan of action.

Peters & Eliot: (Sutyla & Diamond)

Mr. Sutyla:

- The Eliot Mound can't be left out year round; it needs to be put away properly.
- Peters Complex storage – things are left out everywhere. Mr. Schettino stated that all soccer goals should be checked and fixed over the winter months.
- Dirt, cinder, clay, etc – piles of everything are all over the place.
- When we replace fencing, we should replace it with the black vinyl fencing which is much more appealing to the eye.
- Peters Pavilion – check the roof, it may have dry rot.

Indian River Complex: (Karcich & Neri)

Mr. Karcich:

- IRRC Pavilion is in good shape.
- IRRC Building is in good shape
- The IRRC Basketball court is in good shape.
- IRRC parking lots need to be striped and handicap spaces need to be marked.

## **P & R Minutes 11-3-08 (continued)**

- Scagliarini Field: drainage issues on the players side still need to be addressed.
- IRRC Baseball field – poor to fair condition. Remove wooden bleachers, they are covered with mold.
- Dugouts – need work
- Baseball Press Booth – needs to be painted (wood areas)
- The Park is in Good Condition over all

The Director pointed out that the Morgan Baseball Coach came to him with a proposal to paint the dugouts. He will be coming to the January P & R Commission with his proposal.

Mr. Neri: suggestions –

- Speed Bumps at IRRC – we did have drop down (stick w/ stakes) speed bumps which DPW plowed up when they snow plowed.
- Kickboard/wall – his is already an approved Soccer project.
- Net near retaining pond – remove and erect 10 ft. fence along 4 ft. fence is (less maintenance) same on premier field.
- Bleachers at all fields, remove grass and place fabric with pea stone or wood chips, nicer looking and less maintenance.
- Possible pitching bull pens on first and third base side of baseball field.
- Signs at entrance of each field showing # or name. Some of the Fields already have this.
- Drainage problems – install curtain drains along sides of fields – at baseball. Infield – raise clay so that water runs to the outfield to drain and to the sides. Part of the problem is the way the field is dragged and the clay isn't raked back into the infield. Manchester has a Seminar on the appropriate way to drag infields; maybe DPW would be interested in attending this Seminar this coming Spring.
- Roofing: Have we ever considered Ice & Water. We might want to consider this in the future.

Town Beach: (Finkeldey & Swaun)

- Walkway of bridge warped board, screws sticking out, bolts missing, right side of walkway- why is it dug out? The Town is aware of these problems.
- Is the water suppose to be turned off? The water is off.
- Bring in the volleyball net. It will be taken in tomorrow.
- Pavilion – why are there 2 boards holding the roof braces? These will be removed.
- Pavilion is missing board on cross braces in the back & nails are sticking out.
- On walk to far gazebo remove telephone poles by bench. These were part of the old coast guard station and just left there.
- Gazebo; rail missing, 12 shingles missing & wood bench missing. This is an ongoing problem of vandalism.

### **Action Items:**

**Develop Additional Field at IRRC – Cream Pot Road:** Still waiting.

**P & R Minutes 11-3-08 (continued)**

**Soccer Video Tower:** The roll-up, to protect the window is very expensive. We are waiting to hear on the other options.

**Peters Playground/Picnic Area Development & Location:** This will be a Spring 2009 project.

**New Business:**

**Next P & R Commission Meeting:** December 2, 2008.

**P & R Budget:** Memo from First Selectman and Chairman of the BOF: “We are requesting that other than contractual spending, our 2009/10 Operating budget be **zero** or **less** as we anticipate that the revenues we rely upon to operate the Town and Board of education will be reduced significantly due to the economic crisis that is occurring throughout the world. Our goal is to maintain current staffing levels and hopefully services without increasing taxes. In order to do this each and every department must step up so that major changes in operations will not be implemented.”

**Director’s Report:**

The Director gave each Commissioner a summary of projects and their status.

Questions as follows:

Paving at football field bleacher/Town/Willie: The Town will pave the area from the service road just to the left of the entrance to the track/football area (where the grass doesn’t grow) as you would approach the press booth.

Lupone Field: The burm has been removed and new sod will be put down in two weeks.

Roof at Peters Press Booth: signs will be posted to keep off.

Skate Park: will be calked this week. The park will be closed while the work is being down.

Tennis Courts: the only thing we will save are the light poles when this project is done.

Hand Ball Wall at Peters: the wall did come down.

Mrs. Finkeldey motioned to adjourn. Mr. Sutyla seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lois A. Ruggiero,  
Assistant to P & R Director