

Town of Seymour Parks Commission

Monthly Meeting-January 26, 2009

Members Present: Bill Paecht, Ray Faustich, Mike Gargano, Dom Bellucci

Guests Present: Marc Weissman, Carl Czerwiowski, Todd Osgood, Scott Andrews, Gary Cavallaro, Al Yagovane, Alex Danka, Frank Conroy

Meeting was called to order : 7:05 PM by Chairman Bill Paecht

Minutes of the December 22, 2008: Were distributed and approved (Motion-Ray; 2nd Dom; All in favor.)

Public Comment:

- Marc Weissman distributed a written proposal for the establishment of a dog park in Seymour.
- Marc noted that Hamden has built a similar facility (Basset Park) and that it is working well.
- Southbury also has a dog park but it is financed through corporate funding (O & G).

Chairman Paecht noted that The Parks Commission has proposed a Long Term Capital Plan request for 2009- 2010 (\$10,000) for a dog park but that such a request is dependant on the state of the economy. Bill also stated that a primary consideration would be finding a location for the park. Insurance and liability issues were also discussed.

- Marc thanked the Parks Commission for their interest and the inclusion of the request in the proposed 2009-2010 budget.
- Carl Czerwiowski and Todd Osgood also spoke in favor of the proposed dog park.
- Scott Andrews and Gary Cavallaro requested the use of Chatfield Park (June 23rd-29th 2009) for the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the Citizen's Engine Company.

- There were concerns from members of the Parks Commission regarding the:
 1. location and number of rides being brought into the Park.
 2. set up and break down of portable toilet facilities.
 3. certification of Liability Insurance.
 4. movement of trucks and possible damage to the playing fields.
 5. timely and complete clean-up of the Park following the event.
- Scott and Gary assured the Parks Commission that these issues would all be addressed.

Chairman Paecht reminded the Anniversary Committee to complete a Parks Use Request Form and return same to the Parks Commission. Chatfield Park fields will be closed July 23rd-29th 2009. It was also suggested that a banner be placed at French Park announcing the Anniversary Celebration.

- Al Yagovane submitted a site plan and proposed improvements (materials list) to the Korean-Vietnam Memorial Park (Broad Street Park).
 1. This proposal included recommendations for brick & process; a cement pad for benches; and completion of a post and rail fence.
 2. It was noted that First Selectman Bob Koskolowski also proposed a new stone monument for the Park. Details to follow.

Chairman Paecht noted that Seymour Public Works will be laying the sub-base and the stone for the proposed walkway and that approval from the D.O.T and the Fish & Game Commission still needed to be secured.

- Alex Danka requested the use of four nights this summer -2009-(specific nights at the discretion of the Parks Commission) to show movies at French Park/Chatfield Park to be coordinated with the Strand Theatre Schedule.

Public Works Comments: Chairman Paecht reported that:

1. clay had been ordered for Matthies Field at a cost of: \$5890 (\$5000+ \$890 del.)
2. the 3rd base dugout was being repaired at French Park at a cost of \$700.
3. fertilizer for all fields was ordered at a cost of \$7000.
4. there are no new major renovations planned for 2009.

Dom thought it would be a good idea to invite Dennis Rosum to our February meeting.

Reports on Baseball, Softball, Soccer, Football, etc:

- **Baseball:** Dom reported that Babe Ruth League registration is on-going this coming week and that the Babe Ruth Sectional 13 yr. old. Tournament will be held in Seymour this July 2009 and there is also a good possibility that the 13 yr. old Babe Ruth State Tournament will be in Seymour this summer.
- **Softball:** Bob Lang is recovering well from his surgery and reports that registration for the 2009 season is progressing.
- **Seymour Recreation Dept:** Bill reported that the Recreation Department has informed him that they will be requesting the Community Center field (and possibly other fields) for proposed programs during 2009.
- **Soccer & Football:** Will be submitting 2009 field requests at the February meeting.

Selectman Frank Conroy addressed the Parks Commission with the following comments and concerns:

1. The need for the Board of Selectman and the various Commissions (including the Parks Commission) to work together towards the common good of the Town of Seymour.
2. The addition of a Video System for Chatfield Park that can be monitored by Police.
3. The need for permanent rest rooms at Chatfield Park. (The Land Trust building is requested often for this purpose.)
4. The need for an athletic equipment storage container at Chatfield Park.
5. The availability of grant money from various sources and the need for a spirit of cooperation, coordination and perseverance from groups within our town in securing this grant money.

Chairman Paecht will write a letter to the Valley Council regarding the availability of grant money and the possibility of combining the needs of member towns and organizations in the application for these grants.

Other Business:

1. **Chairman Paecht reported that the \$200,000 grant originally designated for field lights at Seymour High School has been delivered to the Town of Seymour. Since the cost of the lights were part of the original construction package and had been included in the final payout by the Board of Education this money belongs to the Town of Seymour as reimbursement.**
2. **The 2009 budget as proposed by the Parks Commission has been submitted to the Board of Finance.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM (Motion-Ray; 2nd-Dom; All in favor)

**Respectfully submitted,
January 27, 2009**

**Ray Faustich (for Bob Lang)
Secretary, Parks Commission**