

**New Shoreham Recreation Board**  
**Tuesday, January 29, 2013**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Road**  
**8:15 a.m.**

**Present:** Chair John Cullen, Members Ann Hall and Gail Heinz. Absent: Tim Clark, Sarah Sue Cook, Alternate Member Christopher Willi and Alternate Paul Henshaw. Also present were Recreation Director Robert Closter and for the recording of minutes, Deputy Town Clerk Millie McGinnes.

Chair John Cullen called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m.

**Public comment**

There was no public comment.

**Approve minutes of December 18, 2012**

A motion was made by Ms. Hall and seconded by Ms. Heinz to approve the minutes of December 18, 2012. The motion carried.

3 Ayes (Cullen, Hall, Heinz)    0 Nays    4 Absent (Cook, Henshaw, Willi, Clark)

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**Old Business**

Ball O'Brien Park

Mr. Closter explained that engineering regarding the footings for the picnic pavilion and bathrooms was completed in early January, but the RFP for the project has not yet gone out. Mr. Closter reported that the Town Manager said that the RFP should be ready to go by the end of January. The Board decided to contact the Town Council if the deadline passes. It was noted that the Lion's Club, who is partially funding the project, is getting frustrated regarding the slow timing and may consider pulling their funding.

**New Business**

Proposed FY '14 Budget

Mr. Closter distributed a document describing the highlights of the Recreation Department's proposed FY '14 budget. He reviewed the document, noting the following:

- Camp Mohegan numbers were down this year, bringing totals down by \$7,000.
- Beach revenue has been up for the past three years. He proposed a budget increase of \$11,000, an average over the past five years.
- A new revenue line "Facility Rental" is being proposed at \$2,000 for revenues associated with renting Heinz Field.
- Total revenues proposed are up \$17,000 over last budget.
- A \$4,000 expense increase in the water usage lines is being proposed to cover Water Company fees.
- A \$12,000 recreation aid position is funded to cover the paternity leave of Mr. Closter.

Discussion ensued regarding summer operations during Mr. Closter's leave during July and August.

Recommended Heinz Field Maintenance Plan

Recreation Director Closter distributed three budget options for the 2014 fiscal year regarding Heinz Field maintenance. Option 1: Maintaining status quo; Option 2: Subcontracting out the maintenance; and Option 3: Adding an additional full time employee. Mr. Closter stated that he felt the most beneficial and least expensive option was adding an additional employee, though he noted that it would be difficult to garner community support on such. Mr. Cullen stated that he thought the most feasible option may be the subcontracting option. Discussion ensued. The Board decided to hold a special meeting on February 12, 2013 to further discuss the matter and invite the Town Council to their February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Election of Officers

Ms. Hall moved to appoint John Cullen as Chair. Ms. Heinz seconded the motion and it carried.

3 Ayes (Cullen, Hall, Heinz)    0 Nays    4 Absent (Cook, Henshaw, Willi, Clark)

Mr. Cullen moved to appoint Ann Hall as Vice Chair. Ms. Heinz seconded the motion and it carried.

3 Ayes (Cullen, Hall, Heinz)    0 Nays    4 Absent (Cook, Henshaw, Willi, Clark)

Ms. Hall moved to appoint Gail Heinz as Secretary. Mr. Cullen seconded the motion and it carried.

3 Ayes (Cullen, Hall, Heinz)    0 Nays    4 Absent (Cook, Henshaw, Willi, Clark)

**Other Business**

The following items were raised:

- There will be a presentation to the Town Council on February 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 regarding the beach pavilion renovation proposals.
- Mr. Closter and the IT consultant are looking into online recreation sign-up and billing software. The software would be included in the IT budget in FY '14.
- The Block Island Land Trust has bought a parcel abutting Heinz Field which may be suitable for additional playing fields. It will be looked into.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Cullen made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Heinz and passed unanimously.

Millie McGinnes  
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved:    February 12, 2013