

New Shoreham Recreation Board
Tuesday, September 17, 2013
Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Road
8:15 a.m.

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

Chair John Cullen called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Approve Minutes for March 19 and March 26, 2013

Mr. Willi moved to approve the minutes of March 19th and March 26th, 2013. Ms. Deane seconded the motion and it carried.

5 Ayes (Cullen, Clark, Deane, Heinz, Willi) 0 Nays 1 Absent (Hall)

Ms. Hall joined the meeting at 8:18 a.m.

3. Correspondence

It was noted that one letter was received and will be addressed under the Triathlon agenda item.

4. Directors Report

Recreation Director Closter noted that he will do a full summer wrap-up at the next meeting. Discussion ensued regarding Camp Mohegan. Ms. Heinz and Mr. Cullen noted that the camp lacked organized programs. Mr. Closter stated that he would send out a survey to camp participants to get feedback. Mr. Willi suggested doing a community wide survey to garner the community's recreation needs and interests.

5. Old Business

a. Discuss Ball O'Brien Park

Mr. Closter explained that bids have been awarded to South County Post and Beam for the picnic shelter and to Joe Sprague for the associated concrete work. It was noted that the Lion's Club is still volunteering to assemble the picnic shelter. He explained that the actual construction is waiting on finalized plans from the engineer. The bathroom is on hold awaiting additional funding.

b. Discuss Heinz Field Maintenance

Director Closter stated that very little of the scheduled maintenance was done at Heinz Field this summer, noting the following:

- One application of fertilizer was applied, where two others were missed.
- The field was watered by Kirk Littlefield as a volunteer action.
- The grass went weeks in May and June without being cut by the mowing

contractor.

- The infield and walking paths were not maintained.

He stated that the current maintenance plan is ineffective and is not working.

c. Discuss Adult Programing

Mr. Closter distributed a schedule for the school gym showing its usage and availability. The Board suggested that adult rec. programs be scheduled on Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and/or Sunday morning.

6. New Business

a. Discuss and act on Block Island Triathlon concerns

It was noted that a letter dated 8/15/13 was received, signed by 16 “Block Island Residents and Business Owners” suggesting moving the triathlon to a less busy time. Director Closter addressed the concerns in the letter and noted that he has made a request to Interstate Navigation to charter or run an earlier ferry in order to run the race in the early morning. Ms. Heinz suggested sending a response letter noting the issues and benefits of keeping the race on the same date. Mr. Willi concurred.

Mr. Willi moved to pursue changing the start time of the triathlon to earlier in the day, contingent upon running an early ferry and to draft a letter for the Town Council addressing the issues. The motion was seconded and carried.

6 Ayes (Cullen, Clark, Deane, Heinz, Hall, Willi) 0 Nays

Mr. Closter will draft a letter.

Mr. Cullen left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

b. Discuss and act on Recreation charge

Recreation Director Closter distributed a draft mission statement/goals and objectives document. Mr. Willi suggested adding an objective of doing a periodic community survey and a final page listing the board design details. The Board will address this at their October meeting.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Willi made a motion to adjourn at 9:38 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Clark and passed unanimously.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: October 15, 2013