

## **Tiverton Recreation Commission Meeting July 20, 2006**

**Meeting began at 7:30 pm at Judson Community Center.**

**Present at tonight's meeting were: Theresa Burke, Jack Cook, Glen Steckman, Phyllis Brower, Debbie Ebbitt, and Diane Toste.**

### **Batting Tunnel**

**Installation of batting tunnel at Town Farm has been rained out twice. The tunnel pieces are in the garage at Town Farm and installation will have to be rescheduled.**

### **Concession Stand**

**The masonry on the concession stand at Pocasset field is completed. Diane Toste suggested using aluminum for electrical and would ask an electrician who does work for the soccer league for suggestions.**

### **Ferolbink Farms**

**Jason Peckham of Ferolbink Farms Bed and Breakfast has requested a free season pass for their guests to be able to use at the beaches. The TRC has not given out free passes in the past. A season pass for non-resident guests is \$50. Daily passes are \$5 weekday/ \$10 weekend. We would be glad to make a special laminated pass with "Ferolbink Farms" on it for specific use by their guests. Phyllis will send a letter to Mr. Peckham reflecting this policy.**

### **Signage**

Opening and closing times at town facilities need to be more specific with actual times posted. Current signs state sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. Lighted areas (Town Farm has timers) can be used later. The parking of campers at beaches after closing needs to be addressed and incorporated into town ordinances.

The number of signs at each facility will be determined by number of entrances and visibility of signs. Extra space needs to be left on signs for additional regulations. Actual making of signs will be discussed at next meeting.

#### **Treasurer**

The need for a Recreation Commission treasurer was discussed. This would make it much easier to know how much money was in different accounts. This would also improve our budgeting process. Mr. Steckman agreed with the need for a treasurer, but suggested waiting for selection until a later date.

#### **Summer Rec.**

Diane suggested that other classes be offered for the middle aged children (12-15 yo.). The library offers some programs for this age and more collaboration was suggested with the Town libraries.

Diane also had information from USYS (US Youth Soccer) about possible grants for soccer facilities. If a 10 year lease was available for field space, USYS offers a \$10K grant for building other structures on the site (bathrooms, etc.). The TRC plans on approaching the Land Conservancy that owns the fields at the end of Pardon Gray

adjacent to Town Farm for use of some land for soccer

Mr. Steckman mentioned that Stone Bridge Fire District has land north of the new Elementary school site that is not being used. Mr. Steckman also said DEM has land acquisition grant money available, but isn't sure what matching funds the town would have to come up with.

Mr. Steckman suggested an annual or semi-annual newsletter reflecting the town's offerings for all programs offered for youth and adults.

Discussion of the town website and updating on a regular basis would help to advertise town programs. Many of the sports in town have their own websites.

### **Stone Bridge Task force (SBTF)**

Jack Cook had a copy of the proposal for improvements to be made by the SBTF.

Debbie suggested making the pass booth in the middle of double sided entrance/exit. It would be much safer. Posts would be erected to keep cars from hitting the booth. The TRC did not like the paving of the parking areas as it would limit access to parking and make the area much hotter. Placing posts connected with thick rope (nautical) in front of the parking area (separating parking area from beach) was suggested also. Mr. Steckman reminded us that the bathrooms at Grinnell's should be handicapped accessible. He also suggested facing the bathroom bldg. with some kind of surface besides brick-shingles or clapboards.

**The dingy dock at Grinnell's is being relocated further up towards the road as the bridge is deteriorating at its present location and the dock could possibly fall. Bridge access has been blocked off completely because of this.**

### **Bulgarmarsh**

**The improvements at Bulgarmarsh are still in planning stages. Mr. Bossom who owns land adjacent to the Bulgarmarsh Rec. Area has plans to develop an Artist's Colony there. He offered use of his architect to help us with our improvements there. We want to make sure the architect is familiar with applying for grants with DEM. We will approach the Tiverton Town Council in August to ask for matching funds (\$3000-3500) to higher an architect.**

### **Kayaking**

**A kayaking workshop will be offered on August 29 at Fogland for 2 age groups costing \$49. All equipment will be provided. We were not able to offer a windsurfing workshop as those who signed up were too young for the class. The company does not offer classes for children under 12 years old.**

**The nature walk offered for this summer at Reutgers has not been scheduled but will happen later in the summer. A science teacher is conducting the class.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:15Pm. Next meeting Thursday,**

**August 17 at 7pm in Judson Comm. Center.**