

**CHAPLIN
RECREATIONCOMMISSION
Special Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Chaplin Town Hall, 7:00 P.M.
March 1, 2017**

Call to order at 7:25 p.m.

Members present: Chairman Matthew Foster, Gary Bennett, Paul Deveny, David Stone, John Smith, Tim Barr

Absent: Matthew Cunningham

Alternates Seated: None

Also present: Elizabeth Marsden, Recording Clerk

Approval of Minutes of January 19, 2017 meeting: M. Foster made a correction in minutes on page four under the heading "Treasurer's Report:" replace "Total in budget" with "General fund." J. Smith moved to approve amended minutes, D. Stone seconded the ***motion***, T. Barr, P. Deveny and G. Bennett abstained. All others in favor, ***motion*** carried.

Audience of Citizens: None

Budget: M. Foster gave an overview of the budget line items. P. Deveny compared a slight discrepancy in amounts of what he has on his copy of budget for line items *Director Hire* and *Clerical*, making his total \$22,189. P. Deveny said he will ask Val Garrison for clarification. M. Foster said the Rec Department's request to the Board of Finance for the coming budget year will be \$22,094 per the copy of the budget he has been working with, which he believes is correct. However, he stated it can be modified at a later date if needed.

D. Stone said that he and Matt Cunningham had discussed removing the Rec Dept maintenance portion of the budget, and the town's Dept of Public Works will take over fertilizing and mowing fields currently being paid for from the Rec budget. He said the Board of Selectman had already approved moving funds to its DPW budget for field maintenance of certain areas of town property.

M. Foster clarified that the Special Meeting should accomplish approval of a budget request to the Board of Finance, and further, that it currently it is the Rec Dept's charge to care for the building and field. The Commission discussed this at length, and the consensus was that any significant changes in the budget for field maintenance would have to be made on a more formal basis, not at this

meeting. M. Foster asked if anyone had any additional input. They discussed allocating \$2,000 more for sports equipment. M. Foster invited a ***motion*** to accept 0 percent increase to next year's budget with \$2,000 moved from field maintenance and development to sporting equipment, making field maintenance \$10,000 and sporting equipment \$2,500. T. Barr moved to accept, J. Smith seconded, all in favor, ***motion*** carried.

Communications:

J. Smith discussed his re-establishment of a connection with WAM and the possibility of some Rec Commission members joining the board of WAM.

Old Business:

Building and Field: already covered above.

Sports Programs:

Basketball: M. Foster discussed the basketball season, which is now over. The Shoot-a-thon didn't happen. He said they still haven't recruited anyone to work as a score-keeper. They might have to increase the pay but can discuss that later. M. Foster discussed a coach from another town who got very aggressive with one of the Chaplin coaches, ending an uncompleted game early. The aggressive coach was fired and a determination was made that Chaplin won the game in which the incident occurred. M. Foster also said he saved approx. \$900 from the janitor services at the high school. Next year the plan will be to hold the Shoot-a-thon in the middle of the season.

T-Ball: G. Bennett has suggestions for T-Ball. He has never seen the 8-week program mentioned by M. Foster, and he critiqued some of the teaching methods and ways of playing the game. A discussion among the Commission resulted, comparing notes about different ways of playing and teaching young kids, having a consistent program, having a longer season, and coordinating with Little League, and to have T-Ball players come to opening day of Little League. Sign-ups need to begin soon and M. Foster mentioned online sign-ups that he did for basketball. He will share his method of using Google for online sign-ups.

David Stone and Gary Bennett will work on getting the registration process resolved for T-Ball. They discussed setting a registration fee for T-Ball for a 10-week program. M. Foster suggested that parent coaches should get a reduced price.

M. Foster invited a ***motion*** to charge a \$40 registration fee for T-Ball, T. Barr so moved, G. Bennett seconded the ***motion***. J. Smith asked if they wanted to offer

a discount for families that have more than one child. T. Barr amended the ***motion*** to state that the price will be \$40 per child and \$30 for each additional child, G. Bennett seconded the ***motion***, all in favor, ***motion*** carried.

M. Foster moved that T-Ball parent coaches will be chosen by the Recreation Commission and their first child will be charged \$20 registration and \$30 for each additional child. T. Barr seconded the ***motion***, all in favor, ***motion*** carried.

The Commission discussed dates of first day of T-Ball and that generally it is on Fridays. Discussed t-shirt sourcing and moving bases to adjust to adult and children's games. P. Deveny will meet with G. Bennett and D. Stone at field to go over options for the bases..

Special Activities: The Commission discussed archery; at the last meeting M. Cunningham discussed having archery instructors come to Chaplin. No updates today.

Pizza party: M. Foster moved to spend \$100 for a basketball coaches' party, P. Deveny seconded the ***motion***, all in favor, ***motion*** carried.

M. Foster moved to purchase a \$50 gift card for a basketball team party. J. Smith seconded the ***motion***, all in favor, ***motion*** carried.

M. Foster invited a ***motion*** to modify the agenda to move Other Business to follow the discussion of the Pizza Party, P. Deveny so moved, J. Smith seconded, all in favor, ***motion*** carried.

Other Business:

Senior Center Stage: The Commission discussed pickleball being held at the Senior Center. They discussed the ceiling lights inside Senior Center and whether they will be modified. They also discussed using the space for indoor hockey, basketball practice for kids, and other programs.

P. Deveny moved to table the remainder of the agenda, J. Smith seconded the ***motion***, all in favor, ***motion*** carried.

Adjournment:

P. Deveny moved to adjourn, T. Barr seconded the ***motion***, all in favor, ***motion*** carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Marsden
Recording Clerk

Tape #19