

# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

OCTOBER 8, 2013

5:30 PM

## PARKS & RECREATION CONFERENCE ROOM

HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTER

2750 DIXWELL AVENUE

HAMDEN

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Tad Watson, Chairman  
Rich Leonardo, Vice Chairman  
Arnie Mann  
Michael McGarry  
Sarah Morrill

**Others in Attendance:** Mimsi Coleman, Director of Arts, Recreation and Culture  
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Watson called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

### APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2013 MINUTES

**Commissioner Leonardo motioned to accept the Minutes of the August 2013 Meeting as presented. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

### DEPARTMENT HEAD'S REPORT

Ms. Coleman distributed the monthly report regarding the work that the Parks Division has been doing.

Next, Ms. Coleman said the Fall Festival was wonderful. There was a discussion regarding the sign directing people to this event. Ms. Coleman said there was a "capacity crowd", estimated at approximately 4,000 attendees. There was a discussion regarding parking.

Ms. Coleman described the various activities that took place at the Festival. Ms. Coleman reported that there was a rented golf cart available. This proved to be very beneficial since there were three medical emergencies.

Next, Ms. Coleman discussed a problem with junk being dumped on the field behind the old middle school. Ms. Coleman said the department is focusing on this problem, by adding lights.

Ms. Coleman said Morretti Field has been aerated and over seeded. She also said the Franklin Fence has been put in, and brush around the new fence has been removed. Mr. McGarry asked if all the money from the grant has been used. Ms. Coleman said it has not. She will look into how much money is left. The bleachers still need to be ordered. There was a discussion regarding the work that needs to be done in the future. Mr. Leonardo discussed the necessity for a gate.

Ms. Coleman was asked by Mr. Mann what her feelings were regarding the work done by the Parks Division in maintaining the fields, playgrounds, etc. in Town. Ms. Coleman said overall she feels they are doing a phenomenal job. She added that there is a small staff and a lot of work to be done.

Mr. McGarry said he is running for Legislative Council in the First District. He is currently running unopposed. He said if he wins he would have to resign from this Commission.

Ms. Coleman said someone who wants to donate several old trophies has contacted her. Ms. Morrill suggested Ms. Coleman contact the CIAC regarding this subject.

There was a discussion regarding the need for an Assault Bill in the State. Mr. Mann will be part of a group making a presentation in Hartford regarding this. There was a discussion regarding this subject.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was a discussion regarding the need to fill the two additional Commission seats. Mr. Watson, Ms. Coleman and Mr. Leonardo have spoken to the Mayor regarding these open positions.

Mr. Watson discussed the recent problems with not being able to establish a quorum at Commission meetings.

Ms. Coleman distributed a document entitled **CANCELLATION POLICY FOR OUTDOOR ATHLETIC EVENTS**. There was a discussion regarding this document.

**Commissioner Leonardo motioned to accept the CANCELLATION POLICY FOR OUTDOOR ATHLETIC EVENTS as presented. Commissioner McGarry seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Mr. Mann suggested that an article be placed in the newspaper thanking people who have attended events sponsored by Arts, Recreation and Culture. He said this article should include the number of people who attended this event.

It was reported that Recreation Supervisor Laura Luzzi health is continuing to improve, and she is looking forward to returning to work.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Watson suggested that this Commission plan events for the elderly population of the Town. Mr. Mann suggested that a representative from The Elderly Services Department attend a Commission meeting to discuss this. There was a discussion regarding this and other activities such as horseshoes, bocce, etc.

### **ADJOURMENT**

There was no further business to come before the Commission, and Chairman Watson called for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Morrill motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leonardo and passed unanimously.** Chairman Watson adjourned the meeting at 6:34 PM.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk