

**TOWN OF HAMDEN**  
**TOWN CENTER PARK COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**  
**JULY 31, 2012**  
**1:00 PM**  
**MAIN FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTER**  
**2750 DIXWELL AVENUE**  
**HAMDEN**

**COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Matt Fitch, Chairman  
Ann Bell  
Ed Grant  
Ernie Reed

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mimsie Coleman, Director of Arts, Recreation and Culture  
Julie Smith, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Rick Gentile, Recreation Coordinator  
Jenna Pederson, Quinnipiac Student, Presidential Public Service Fellow  
Evan Milos, Quinnipiac Student, Presidential Public Service Fellow  
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Fitch called the meeting to order at 1:11 PM.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance was taken as noted above.

**ALL ABILITIES PLAYGROUND**

Ms. Smith discussed the All Abilities Playground proposed for Town Center Park. She said she has received four proposals, and distributed the proposals for the Commissioners to review.

Ms. Smith explained that the Request for Proposals included landscaping, fencing, a structure that would be almost all wheelchair accessible, and at least one rocking apparatus. It must also be jungle themed, and have an entryway with the title "Josh's Jungle". Ms. Smith displayed the designs submitted and explained the structures on each. Ms. Smith also answered questions regarding handicap accessibility to the proposed structures.

There was further discussion regarding the proposals. It was noted by Chairman Fitch that there didn't seem to be many handicap ramps on any of the design. There was further discussion regarding the playground proposals. It was agreed by all those present, that none of the designs seemed adequate.

Mr. Fitch asked what the time line is on this project. Ms. Smith said there isn't a firm time line. Mr. Fitch suggested that the Commissioners think about this during the next two weeks, and then continue the discussion at the next meeting. Mr. Fitch asked what the price is for this structure; Ms. Smith said \$400,000. All agreed to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

**MOVIE NIGHT/ BASEBALL GAME**

Ms. Coleman said ESPN is going to provide a tent. Ms. Fitch asked if they could provide a PSA. Ms. Coleman said they could.

Next, Ms. Coleman discussed the cable that needs to be installed. She has been in touch with Comcast regarding this. Comcast will lay the cable, and the Town Public Works Department will dig the trench and Comcast will lay the pipe. This installation will be paid for from the Town Center Park Utilities Account.

Ms. Coleman distributed an e-mail from Fun-Flicks of Connecticut regarding their policy on weather related cancellations. The Commissioners discussed this policy. Ms. Coleman said that she has requested two rain dates in September, but has not heard back from Fun Flicks yet.

Mr. Fitch asked about the vendors for Grease. Ms. Coleman said there would be Kettle Corn, Giovanni's Ice Cream Truck and DiSorbo Fried Dough and Italian Ice. Ms. Coleman has approached Fire Dog and Glenwood. She said they would not come together. Glenwood will be at the Movie Night on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Fire Dog will be there on August 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Fitch asked if all the vendors would be selling beverages. Ms. Smith said they would. Mr. Fitch also asked where the vendors would be positioned. Ms. Smith said to the right of the stage.

Next, there was a discussion regarding the possibility of bad weather, and who would make the decision to cancel the movie event. Mr. Fitch said he would make the decision. Ms. Coleman said the decision has to be made between 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM on the day of the event.

Matt asked about the possibility of moving the game broadcast into the Hamden Middle School. Ms. Coleman said this would depend on ESPN. She added that she is sure that Fun Flicks would agree to moving it inside.

Ms. Coleman said copyright-licensing documents must be signed. Mr. Fitch will sign these documents.

Mr. Fitch has downloaded the top songs of 1958 and 1959. They will be played from 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM, prior to the start of Grease.

Mr. Fitch said that we should follow up with Ann DeMatteo, WQUN, facebook and the Town website regarding the August events.

Ms. Coleman will order port-o-lets and trash/recycling containers for the planned events.

There was a short discussion regarding the Town Center Park tee shirts. These will be available for sale at the Farmers Market and at Movie Nights and the Baseball Game.

The Commissioners discussed the necessity of a pop up tent and table with chairs. Ms. Coleman will take care of this. She will also make sure a microphone is available.

Classic Cars will be set up in rows along side the stage for Grease. The cars will remain there for the movie. The CERT team will be there to supervise and protect the cars.

Mr. Fitch discussed Casablanca and whether WQUN could provide big band music. Ms. Smith will download appropriate music for this movie.

Mr. Fitch asked what the sound level would be for Grease. Ms. Coleman said she doesn't know, but we can have input. Mr. Fitch would like to have the music “ramped up” during the musical numbers.

The discussions regarding the proposed Town Center Park Tag Sale, and the proposed Karaoke event were tabled to the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business to come before the Commission and Mr. Fitch adjourned the meeting at 2:03 PM.

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