

**Killingworth Park and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting January 9, 2012**

The Killingworth Park and Recreation Commission held a Regular Meeting on Monday, January 9, 2012, at 8:00 PM at the Killingworth Town Office Building, 323 Route 81, Killingworth, Connecticut.

Present: Dan Colonia
Sallyanne Bauer
Bill Burley
Glenn Johnson
Rob Grasso
Scot Thomas
Absent: Bill Silas

1. Chairman Dan Colonia called the meeting to order at 8:01 PM.

2. Minutes of: Regular Meeting held December 12, 2011

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson and seconded by Sallyanne Bauer to accept the minutes of the December 12, 2011 meeting as written. Rob Grasso abstained. Motion passed.**

3. Visitors present: Eric Toman, Boy Scouts of America
John Connell, HK Babe Ruth
Frank Sparks, HK Recreation Dept.
Robin Duffield, HK Soccer Club
Paige B. Wink, HK Soccer Club
Rob Steinhilper, HK Youth Football
Alan Kostek, KYL
Daniel Glynn, KYL

Eric Toman updated the group on the progress of his Eagle Scout project (split-rail fence at KRP) explaining that the application is nearly complete and Dan summarized the project for the visitors. He added that he is still working on fundraising plans, considering a chili cook-off or selling several levels of sponsorship to local businesses to be displayed on a plaque at the park. The group also discussed selling engraved bricks to be used on the entryway or surrounding the flagpole, and Glenn suggested he contact Shelly Brothers in Madison for reasonably priced bricks. Eric also confirmed that the commission will contribute 50% of the cost. The commission agreed that Dan should sign the application as the first step toward approval. Dan stressed to Eric the importance of keeping the commission informed of his progress and Eric thanked the commission for their time.

Dan then presented an overview of the KRP's development and field planning, explaining that the commission had initially requested 5 fields at the site but 4 were approved. He explained that the commission hopes to open the facility this coming spring, but expressed concern about premature and over use and noted that the commission will not allow it. Dan also explained the purpose of this meeting is to keep the many user groups informed about the progress of all Killingworth's fields and discuss their needs. Rob stressed the need to iron out all the scheduling conflicts before the fields open for the season so there are no issues once play has begun.

Dan also discussed the town's website noting that the Field Usage forms are available for download and expressed his hope to have all forms available for on-line completion and submission soon. He also stated that the commission hopes to post inclement weather field closings on the website. Frank Sparks questioned how far ahead a closing will be posted, requesting close of business on Friday for a Saturday closing, noting he has 3 venues to coordinate and many teams to contact. Discussion followed. Glenn explained that the KRP fields are extremely well drained and will not have the water issues of other fields.

Robin Duffield questioned KRP field sizes and line direction and Dan explained that there are metal pins in the ground marking the 2 upper 65'/70' x 120' fields and the 2 lower 130' x 240' fields, noting none of them will be lined sideways. In-depth discussion followed regarding field rotation and the change in the number of available field slots, and Dan stressed that there will be an additional field and fewer user groups contending for slots resulting in more time slots. Dan stated that HK Rec rain dates will remain as scheduled. It was also noted that although HK Youth Lacrosse and HK Youth Football are new users, their seasons do not overlap. Detailed discussion of soccer club team numbers and slots followed and Dan cautioned not to view the changes as "loosing Sheldon" but rather adding another field and more time slots at a new KRP. Scot added that the user groups will continue to be responsible for lining the fields and Frank questioned storage for equipment at the KRP. Dan noted that there is a storage building already and any user group can provide their own storage building of a compatible style at KRP. He offered the commission's support to get Planning & Zoning's approval, but he cautioned not to purchase a big building because the required footings/foundation will be cost prohibitive.

Rob Steinhilper expressed football's desire to purchase and erect goal posts on one of the large fields for Thursday/Friday use and to use the front off-field area for practices. He also stated that the organization would like to share in the purchase of a storage building. Dan cautioned against over use of the off-field area by other users without regular irrigation. Discussion of irrigation options for the off-field area followed. Frank noted that RD#17 may have an available water cannon and suggested he contact Mike DiStefano. The group also discussed a playground, pavilion and concession stand and Dan noted that these items were wanted but not included in the initial plan, but he was hoping the Lions Club might take on a playground as a fundraiser. It was also noted that the handicap-accessible playground at Great Hill in Haddam was funded with state money. Dan explained that groups wanting to picnic/grill should include that on the field usage form.

The group then discussed moving soccer goals from Sheldon to KRP and Dan Glynn offered KYL's help, and in-depth discussion about lining the fields for the various sports followed. Alan Kostek questioned usage of Sheldon Park and Dan explained that Sheldon will be strictly a baseball/softball facility once KRP opens. Discussion of all the baseball fields, as well as the plans for the redesign of Sheldon Park, followed.

Dan informed the users that the commission plans to open the KRP fields in April and invited the users to attend whatever picnic/celebration is planned. Frank suggested piggybacking the celebration with opening day to maximize attendance and options were discussed.

4. Communications, Bills and Applications

a. Communications from other agencies are emailed to the commission as received.

b. The following bills were received:

Bill from Anthony Carri, for December, in the amount of	279.00
bill from CL&P in the amount of	39.29
second bill from CL&P in the amount of	38.76
third bill from CL&P in the amount of	38.89

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson seconded by Scot Thomas to authorize payment of the above bills. Motion passed unanimously.**

c. No new applications were presented.

5. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bill Silas was absent due to a family emergency. Dan noted that approximately 32% of this year's budget has been expended, and explained that Bill will submit the 2012-2013 budget this week.

6. Old Business

a. Parks and Field Maintenance

- Sheldon Field – Scot questioned the blinking light and Dan noted that Bill s. was investigating it and it could be discussed at the next meeting.
- Rocco Field – Glenn presented a plan to resolve the drainage issues which included 1 or 2 drains and a permanently installed sump pump. In-depth discussion followed of options including a more long-term solution including running a gravity driven drainage pipe/trench/stone across the entire field (approx. 250') which could cost approximately \$5000. Dan suggested that Glenn consult Eric Auer and Glenn stated he will get survey elevations and determine a cost for a permanent solution adding the commission might want to add \$5000 to the budget. The group discussed getting Planning & Zoning's and Inland Wetland's approval of any plan and Dan suggested keeping any plan under the \$10,000 budget discussed at the last meeting. Sallyanne questioned if the late summer time frame would still apply. Dan also noted that with only 30% of the commission's annual budget expended to date, the project could be paid for with this year's funds. Dan reviewed the town bidding guidelines.
- Bethke Field – nothing new to discuss.
- KRP – nothing new to discuss.

b. Killingworth Recreation Park (KRP) Development

Sallyanne presented several style options, in the same size as the Rocco and Bethke signs, ranging in price from \$1400 to \$2000 for a 2-sided wooden sign

with gold leaf lettering from Lighthouse Signs, plus \$600 for aluminum poles and installation. (She noted that she tried to contact Sign of Our Times several times, but no one returned her call.) The group selected the design they preferred and also discussed purchasing individual signs to indicate field numbers or noting the field numbers on one park map, possibly in a kiosk. Sallyanne will contact the vendor to get a time frame and Dan will set meeting with Planning & Zoning for approval.

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson seconded by Bill Burley to authorize up to \$3000 to purchase and install a sign for the KRP. Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion of the net for the edge of the large field followed and Scot stated he will bring the information to the next meeting

***A motion was made by Rob Grasso seconded by Scot Thomas to authorize up to \$3000 to purchase a border net for the KRP. Motion passed unanimously.**

c. Sheldon Park Re-Design – discussed earlier in the meeting with visitors.

7. New Business

Dan explained that the Lions Club would like to install a skating rink liner and suggested it could be located at Sheldon Park.

8. Adjournment

***A motion was made by Scot Thomas and seconded by Glenn Jonson to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 PM. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn R. Mooney
Recording Secretary