

**Killingworth Park and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting February 13, 2012**

The Killingworth Park and Recreation Commission held a Regular Meeting on Monday, February 13, 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
Bill Silas (arrived at 8:15 PM)
Scot Thomas (arrived at 8:30 PM)

1. Chairman Dan Colonia called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.

2. Minutes of: Regular Meeting held January 9, 2012

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson and seconded by Sallyanne Bauer to accept the minutes of the January 9, 2012 meeting as written. Motion passed unanimously. (Bill Silas and Scot Thomas not yet present.)**

3. Visitors present: Jason Nemergut

Jason presented 70% drawings showing the softball field rotated, with handicapped walkways included. Discussion followed regarding drainage noting it has been addressed in the new plan and adding there is very little runoff now. Electricity for scoreboards and a future concession structure, as well as the existing block building, were discussed. In-depth discussion of the handicapped walkways and field sizes and orientations followed, including the distance from home plates to the backstops (22' or 25'), outfield distances and fencing needs. The group also discussed the option of relocating the tennis court to allow for more parking (119 spots and 6 handicapped spots in current plan) and the need for extended fencing to protect parked cars. The next step will be 90% drawings to be presented at the next commission meeting.

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 January, in the amount of	\$135.00
bill from recording secretary Dawn Mooney, in the amount of	103.33
bill from CL&P in the amount of	40.28
second bill from CL&P in the amount of	39.26

third bill from CL&P in the amount of 38.61
 fourth bill from CL&P in the amount of 39.26

***A motion was made by Bill Silas seconded by Rob Grasso to authorize payment of the above bills. Motion passed unanimously.**

bill from Nemergut Consulting (60% complete) in the amount of 3,165.00

***A motion was made by Bill Silas seconded by Glenn Johnson to authorize payment of the Nemergut Consulting bill from the Sheldon Engineering/Design Fund. Motion passed unanimously.**

c. The following applications were received:

- Application from Killingworth Babe Ruth Baseball for the use of upper Sheldon Field, 4/1/12 to 8/1/12, Weds and Fri 5:00PM to dusk, for baseball practices and games.
- Application from KYL for the use of Bethke Field, 4/1/12 to 6/30/12, Mon– Fri 4:00PM to dusk, Sat and Sun 8:00AM to dusk, for softball practices.
- Application from KYL for the use of Rocco Field, 4/1/12 to 8/1/12, Mon– Fri 4:00PM to dusk, Sat and Sun 8:00AM to dusk, for baseball practices and games.
- Application from KYL for the use of the green backstop field and lower Sheldon Field, 4/1/12 to 8/1/12, Mon – Fri 4:00PM to dusk, Sat and Sun 8:00AM to dusk, and the use of upper Sheldon field, 4/1/12 to 8/1/12, Tues and Thurs 4:00PM to dusk, for baseball practices and games.
- Anticipated application from the Men’s Softball organization for the use of upper Sheldon field, Mon nights 4:30 to dusk.

***A motion was made by Rob Grasso and seconded by Bill Silas to approve the above applications for the use of Sheldon Field, Bethke Field and Rocco Field as requested. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Application from HK Youth Lacrosse for the use of KRP field #2 (lined for lacrosse only) 4/1/12 to 6/25/12, Tues - Fri 4:00PM to dusk, and Sat and Sun 8:00AM to dusk, and KRP field #4 (lined for lacrosse and soccer) 4/1/12 to 6/25/12, schedule to be worked out with HK Soccer, for practices and games.

***A motion was made by Scot Thomas and seconded by Bill Burley to approve the above HK Youth Lacrosse application for the use of KRP Fields #2 and #4 as requested. Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion followed regarding resting each field at KRP a minimum of one day per week and the need to enforce such a requirement. Debate followed regarding the optimum duration of rest periods noting the possibility that fields will be idle frequent weekend days because of away games. Bill Silas questioned the need for contingency plans if field conditions deteriorate and spirited discussion followed. Members noted that the fields are in very good condition now.

5. Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Bill Silas reported:

Opening balance	\$	43,829.69
Expenses		7,998.69

Ending balance \$ 35,831.00 (approx. 35% of budget)
 Bill explained that the budget he requested for 2012-2013 fiscal year increased by \$500 to \$55,500.00, with 2 anticipated capital expenditures:

Work at Rocco Field	\$ 15,000.00
Sheldon Field Development	\$ 100,000.00

Dan reminded the group that approximately \$250,000 of the outstanding STEAP Grant is earmarked for the Sheldon re-design. Dan also discussed the prior recreation surveys and noted that it's approaching time to conduct another survey of the residents' wants to guide the commission over the next 5 to 10 years.

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson seconded by Scot Thomas to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Old Business

a. Parks and Field Maintenance

- Sheldon Field – nothing new to discuss.
- Rocco Field – Glenn presented a new plan to resolve the drainage issues utilizing gravity drainage system that drains out to center field. He spoke with Eric Auer for a quote of approximately \$500 for the drains and pipes and approximately \$5,000 for the pea gravel and the labor to install the system (see quote attached to these minutes.) It was noted that the quote does not include sod, seed or clay, and further noted that if the cost is over \$5,000 there must be other bids. Glenn explained the plan in detail advising it is a better solution than the pump solution, and noting he will present it to Inland Wetlands and Water Courses the next night. Discussion of project timing followed, questioning whether it should be done prior to the spring season or delayed until the end of summer coordinate with the field re-grade. Dan explained that the availability of funding may determine timing of the project, and questioned if it must be presented to Planning & Zoning or Municipal Land Use as well. The commission agreed that they do not want the project to impact opening day so if it cannot be completed beforehand, it should wait until the end of summer.
- Bethke Field – Dan questioned whether the commission should install a port-o-pottie at Bethke Field given prior vandalism issues and the consensus was to wait to see if it is necessary.
- KRP – Dan noted that there is a tree down needing to be cut and discarded and a second tree near the Nescis' property that has fallen and is leaning on several other trees posing a danger. Scot volunteered to cut the downed tree himself.

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson seconded by Sallyanne Bauer to approve up to \$500.00 to cut down the leaning tree. Motion passed unanimously.**

b. Killingworth Recreation Park (KRP) Development - The commission discussed the need to institute a procedure to close the fields in inclement weather and notify the user groups, possibly via the town's website. Dan questioned the best way to assess the field conditions and determine criteria to close. The group also discussed the timing of a closing decision noting they would rather err on the side of caution and safety. They further noted that failure to observe a closing should result in a letter to the user and sanction. Glenn stated that the fields are engineered to withstand use in rainy conditions, and should not need to be closed. He

stressed that with the extensive drainage system in place, the fields should be playable after a reasonable rain. The commission agreed that only time will provide insight into how the fields handle rain and drainage.

The group discussed the quote of \$3,800 for 50' of permanent, high border netting noting that 80' to 100' is needed. Scot agreed to get a new quote and the group noted that if the price exceeds \$5,000 they must get bids. The members then discussed the field opening and Dan explained that he is getting a quote for port-o-potties and trash removal from existing vendors. The group went on to discuss an opening ceremony, possibly to be held after the unofficial opening and use of the fields. Bill S. stated that Bob Wettish and another neighbor may be interested in acting as the gatekeeper for the facility, and Scot noted the group will have to track the equipment that user groups are keeping at the park. The need to give user groups keys to the gate and storage building was also discussed.

Dan noted the poor condition of the old house on the property and stated that he plans to discuss it with Cathy Iino, because it is an eyesore and a safety issue and cannot remain as it is. Bill S. added that the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Co. used the building for a training exercise.

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

7. New Business

The commission set the date of Saturday, March 10 to meet at Sheldon Park at 1:00 PM for the annual fields walk-through.

Bill B. questioned if the fields might possibly open before April 1, and Dan explained that the walk-through issues must be addressed before field use, and suggested that he consider the opening date of April 1 to be firm.

Dan stated that he communicated with Ron Imbriglio (see attachment) regarding the Annual Fishing Derby on the second Saturday in April, noting the budget was the same as last year's and commending Ron for the good job he does.

8. Adjournment

***A motion was made by Bill Silas and seconded by Scot Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 PM. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn R. Mooney
Recording Secretary

attachments