

**Killingworth Park and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting June 13, 2016**

The Killingworth Park and Recreation Commission held a Regular Meeting on Monday, June 13, 2016, 7:30 p.m. at the Killingworth Town Office Building, 323 Route 81, Killingworth, Connecticut.

Present: Dan Colonia
Brian Blair
Glenn Johnson
Donna Clark
Bill Burley
Scot Thomas (arrived at 7:35 p.m.)

Absent: Jim Duffield

1. Chairman Dan Colonia called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

2. Minutes of: Regular Meeting on Monday, May 9, 2016

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson and seconded by Scot Thomas to accept the minutes of the May 9, 2016 Regular Meeting as written. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Visitors present: Leslie Palm, KRP neighbor
Jacque Wilcox, Pickleball application
Ethan Drain, Drainscapes

Leslie Palm introduced herself and noted that she and her husband live directly across the street from KRP. She explained that they have adjusted to having a recreation facility across the street, but added that booming noise of the rebounding wall is too much to tolerate. Mrs. Palm asked the commission to consider removing or relocating the rebounding wall. In-depth discussion of the use of the wall, possible other locations, construction and cost followed. Glenn noted that the noise aspect of the wall was not originally considered in deciding on its location and recommended that the wall be moved. Bill agreed to contact Noah Freeman to explain why the wall is being moved before proceeding.

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson and seconded by Bill Burley to contact Eagle Scout Noah Freeman and allow Ethan Drain to investigate relocating the rebounding wall at KRP. Motion passed unanimously.**

Jacque Wilcox introduced herself and explained that she would like to use a Sheldon Park tennis court for pickleball. She discussed pickleball at length explaining it's a great sport for those 55 and older. Mrs. Wilcox shared with the group a diagram of how she proposes the court be set up and lined, and explained that an ad will be published in the July Killingworth Krier looking for interested players. Dan informed the group that HKRec is offering a pickleball program at the HKHS tennis courts. In-depth discussion followed regarding portable nets and how best to securely store them at the park, lining options and safety. Donna stated that she has the portable youth tennis nets

and questioned whether they could be used for pickleball as well. Glenn agreed to contact either On-Site or M & M regarding striping the courts. Dan stated that his only concern is to verify that it is not a violation of the USTA Grant to use the courts for pickleball, adding that he has put in a call to Kelly Goodhart. Donna agreed to contact Jen at USTA as well. The commission agreed that pickleball would be a beneficial multi-generational use of the Sheldon Park facility as well as the planned extended walking trails.

Ethan Drain explained that he has completed the field aeration, over-seeded, applied grub control and spread the processed stone and filled potholes in the parking lot. He also noted that he spoke with Trooper Matt Ward regarding the dangerous and destructive driving that repeatedly damages the parking area. He recommended that actions be taken to catch the offender. The group discussed summer field usage, repairing worn spots and staggering field closures. Dan noted that the fields look good. Ethan also recommended using broad-leaf weed control on the common areas and fields because weeds are creeping in from wooded areas, and advised that common areas be cut weekly with the fields rather than bi-weekly. In-depth discussion followed. Dan expressed concern for honeybees that rely on the clover on the fields as well as the run-off into the retention ponds. Ethan noted that he is following the guidelines that Eric Auer taught him. Bill explained that one of the girls' lacrosse teams is planning a "hero run" to benefit a Haddam girl with cancer and asked that the common areas be cut for this. Ethan advised that all common areas will be mowed this week. Ethan went on to explain that he subcontracted out the aeration, over-seeding and grub control application to Lawn Surgeon of Cromwell, and made an inadvertent typographical error in his email quoting the price, typing \$1700 rather than the actual charge of \$2700. Ethan accepted responsibility and apologized for the error.

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson and seconded by Scot Thomas to an additional \$1000.00 due to a typographical error for over-seeding and aerating at KRP. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Communications, Bills and Applications

a. Communications are emailed to group as received.

b. The following bills were received:

bill from Drainscapes, KRP contract payment 6 of 8, move and spread top soil and processed stone, apply grub control and overseed and aerate fields, in the amount of	6,118.63
bill from Langer Landscaping, Sheldon contract, Bethke clean-up, in the amount of	1,625.00
bill from Langer Landscaping, Rocco seeding balance, in the amount of	1,495.00
bill from Recording Secretary Dawn Rees Mooney, for April and May, in the amount of	86.19
bill from Olson Sanitation dated May 2016, in the amount of	615.00
bill from Anthony Carri, Sheldon gatekeeper, for May in the amount of	290.00
bill from Peter Cumpstone, KRP gatekeeper, for May in the amount of	310.00
bill from Sweitzer dated 5/3, in the amount of	357.08
bill from Sweitzer dated 6/1, in the amount of	357.08
bill from Eversource, in the amount of	46.42
second bill from Eversource, in the amount of	45.29

third bill from Eversource, in the amount of	163.34
fourth bill from Eversource, in the amount of	44.25
bill from USTA for annual membership	35.00

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson and seconded by Brian Blair to approve payment of the above bills. Motion passed unanimously.**

The group also discussed a bill from Hudson Electric for work at the transfer station, but agreed that the bill was given to the commission in error. Dan advised he would return the bill to Finance Director Gina Regolo.

c. No new applications were received.

5. Treasurer's Report

Bill explained that 60-61% of the annual budget has been expended, with approximately \$27,000 remaining, before tonight's approved bills.

6. Old Business

a. Parks and Field Maintenance –

- Sheldon Park – Dan discussed tree removal and suggested contacting Dan Glynn and Glenn agreed to investigate the tennis court privacy fencing. Dan explained the hold up with the blinking light is finding an installer and getting DOT approval. The commission also discussed storage options for pickleball nets at length, agreeing that a weather-proof storage locker approximately 3' x 5' and preferably green for security was essential.

***A motion was made by Brian Blair and seconded by Donna Clark to approve up to \$2000 for the purchase of a secure storage locker for the Sheldon Field tennis courts. Motion passed unanimously.**

Glenn stated that he is finalizing the bid documents for the extended walking trails. Dan noted that the Lions Club plans to donate and install several pieces of playground equipment, such as swing set replacement with 3 regular and 1 ADA swings, cosmic spinner, curved balance beam and spring toys. Dan added that he would like to begin ordering equipment such as the millennium swing and suggested contacting Shawn Langer regarding removing the fence between the concession stand and the playground.

- Rocco Field – Dan shared Shawn Langer's explanation that the moles at Rocco are going after earthworms not grubs and his suggestion that the moles be trapped and eliminated.

***A motion was made by Bill Burley and seconded by Scot Thomas to approve up to \$375 to trap and kill moles at Rocco Field. Motion passed unanimously.**

- Bethke Field – not discussed
- KRP – The commission discussed using sod to repair wear spots on Fields 1 & 4 and Dan stated that the irrigation filter housing is cracked and leaks and must be repaired this month. The group also discussed the budget and anticipated cost for KRP Phase II.

7. New Business

The group discussed appointments to the Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Authority and agreed to recommend the following members:

Dan Colonia

Brian Blair

Jim Duffield.

Dan also informed the commission about an incident that recently occurred at Sheldon Park when a girls' softball team hit several balls that landed on a neighbor's property. The team's coach, also a trooper, went onto the property to retrieve the balls and the owner came out of the house with a gun on his hip. Cathy Iino was informed of the situation and is investigating nets to prevent it from recurring.

8. Adjournment

***A motion was made by Glenn Johnson and seconded by Bill Burley to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn R. Mooney
Recording Secretary