

# TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

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## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

STW Community Center  
132 Middletown Avenue, Northford, Ct. 06472

### Special Meeting

Monday, January 5, 2015  
7:30 pm

### Minutes/Discussion

Attending: Brian Lynch, Victor Palma, Steve Torino, Karen Ablondi  
and Michelle Provencher

Also Attending: Director Pam Gery, Rose Angeloni, Council Liaison and  
many members of the Festival Committee.

Brian Lynch called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The minutes of November 17, 2014 were unanimously accepted without corrections on the motion by Karen Ablondi, seconded by Victor Palma.

Rose Angeloni questioned whether the meeting was a legally posted Special Meeting and advised that members of the Commission not make any changes to the Agenda, although members of the Festival Committee wished to speak to the Commission concerning possible changes in scheduling the 2015 Festival and were advised that the members would stay to hear them after the meeting was concluded.

Pam explained that due to the cancellation of the December meeting and the lateness of the next scheduled regular meeting, the need to discuss the Proposed Budget and who would be able to attend the Budget Hearings with Pam, called for a Special Meeting tonight. Rose explained that all commissions needed to submit a list of meeting dates voted upon by the Board and posted with the Town Clerk. The Meeting Dates for 2015 were submitted without being prior approved by the Board, therefore her understanding was that all meetings under that list would have to be approved by the Commission and submitted as Special Meetings for the entire next year. The clerk was going by what had always been done by getting approval of Pam Gery, as the P & R Director. The list of meetings needs to be accepted by the Town Clerk in November for the following year. She will check with the Town Clerk to verify the process. There followed a discussion concerning only those items mentioned in the published Agenda for the meeting and updates on business from previous meetings.

**Town Sports Organizations:**

Pam met with the Zoning Officer and the Lacrosse storage container is set as had been discussed without problem.

**Parks and Fields:**

The master plan will be incorporated with other building and facilities which are being studied. All members were reminded to learn from the groups their needs and priorities so they may be addressed during budget time. The tennis and Basketball courts will be addressed as monies are made available, however the Tennis Courts can't be repaired at this time and will not be ready for the start of the season.

a. Dog Park: Pam reiterated that the Dog Park Committee has raised the \$10,000 that they agreed to do and now Phase 1 needs to get underway. The next step must be discussed at the next meeting.

**Program Review:**

As a second source of revenue as well as a service to the Seniors, Pam suggested considering a Senior Store be located at the Center. There are other Senior Centers which offer the service and Pam is looking into the feasibility. The Commission agreed it would be worth looking into it.

**New Property Projects:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Budget Review:**

Will be revisited at the meeting on January 20th.

**STW Community Center:**

The problem of lack of heat in the kitchen has temporarily been alleviated by borrowing heaters for the morning hours, seeing that after the ovens are heated the problem resolves itself. However, now there have been some bathroom difficulties, inasmuch as the pipes are old and it may only require that they be cleaned out (drilled), but it has been an uncomfortable problem because they have had to be closed for periods when water overflow becomes a hazard.

The Building Project Committee has approx. \$35,000 left to spend on this project after the Front Sign and parking lights are finalized. Pam will send the Commission Members the list of final priorities she would like to see the building get done with the rest of the money. The Commission will have to approve this list of priorities at the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

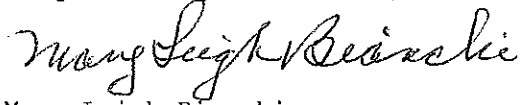
**Senior Center:**

Reported under Program Review.

**Adjournment:**

On the motion by Steve Torino second, Karen Ablondi, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. after which Members of the Festival Committee who had stayed to discuss problems concerning the Festival plans for 2015 were heard and these will be formally addressed at the next regular meeting on January 20, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Leigh Bianchi  
Clerk