

**SALEM RECREATION COMMISSION  
SALEM CONNECTICUT  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 17, 2009**

**Present**

Bob Appleby  
Rich Cirillo  
Sue Spang  
Jim Burke  
Kim Bingham  
Al Giansanti

**Absent**

Nancy Sekinger  
Ted James  
Joe Dalton

**Guests**

Don Bourdeau

**Call to order:**

Chairperson Sue Spang called the meeting to order at 7:30

**1. Minutes:**

**M/S/C (Henry/Bingham). To approve the December 2008 minutes as presented.  
Vote: Approved Unanimously.**

**M/S/C (Cirillo/Bingham) to approve the January 2009 minutes as presented. Vote:  
Approved Unanimously.**

**2. Treasurers Report:**

**M/S/C (Henry/Appleby) to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Vote:  
Approved Unanimously**

**3. Public Comment/Guests/Correspondence**

**None**

**a. Bourdeau Report**

D. Bourdeau reported that he is asking for funding for security in the upcoming budget. He asked if the Commission was still interested in security cameras at the RHR complex. It was the consensus of the Commission that we would like to have the security cameras. He also informed the Commission that he will be discussing with the Board of Finance spending \$5742.00 out of field maintenance for the chain link fence at the Forsyth Road soccer fields. The Commission was in agreement that the fence was necessary for the protection of the fields from vandalism and was preventative field maintenance. D. Bourdeau stated he would flush the underground piping on the softball field to ensure there are no blockages.

**4) Additions and Revisions**

**None**

## 5) **New Business**

### **a. Budget**

S. Spang informed the Commission that the upcoming Thursday the Rec. budget will be discussed at the Board of Finance. She stated although it is a zero increase budget there is still the possibility of cuts. S. Spang informed the members that a request for D. Weston's position be increased from five hours to seven. She stated that is all the First Selectman felt comfortable requesting considering the economy. It was noted that D. Weston does a number of functions on her own time.

### **b. Special Use Permit**

S. Spang asked the members for their input on the proposed ordinance for special permits. The reason for the ordinance was explained. The members noted that most any regular game would constitute a need for filling out a permit. The tree lighting, opening day ceremonies for baseball, and other events were discussed as to the impact of having to fill out a permit form. It was the consensus of the Commission that the Chairman be directed to express the following at the Board of Selectman meeting:

1. The Commission feels that regular sporting or recreational events should be exempt from the ordinance much as the school is exempt.
2. Suggest the number of people attending an event be raised from 75 to 150, therefore making most of the sporting events not subject to a permit.
3. Suggest the requirement for permits be submitted no more than 20 days before the event be changed in order for town officials and applicants to be able to adjust to any requirements or special needs that may arise in the application.
4. Clarify the intent of the wording where it states the event is advertised. Does this mean if an event is not advertised it does not have to have a permit?

The Commission felt it should not have to apply for an event permit for activities they are charged with doing by the ordinance creating the Recreation Commission.

### **c. Softball Field Press Box**

The Commission discussed the need to replace the existing press box due to deterioration and unsafe nature of its condition. P. Lee had submitted estimates for material cost at the last meeting. D. Bourdeau asked the

Commission for a copy of the plans. S. Spang stated she would discuss with the Town Planner what permits would have to be obtained in order to build the press box.

**M/S/C (Giansanti/Cirillo) to approve funding of no more than \$1500 from line 645-085-0301 for the purpose of replacing and building a press box at the softball field. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

**d. Concession Stand**

A. Giansanti informed the Commission of the input from the Salem Youth Baseball League regarding the upgrade to the concession stand. He suggested a concrete slab with split rail fencing around it and four picnic tables. There would also be a wall to separate the eating area from the restrooms. He also informed the Commission that the interior needed painting. The Commission liked the proposal and asked for more info on the eating area. The Commission stated the painting could start any time

**6. Old Business**

**a. Baseball**

A. Giansanti reported that baseball signups are over and the league will begin tryouts and drafting at the end of February. He stated there are approximately 120 girls and 100 boys in the league. He informed the Commission that the league is looking for a spot at the Babe Ruth Field to put a memorial stone with plaque in honor of Bob Brown and Chuck Paulino. This was the agreement with the Paulino Scholarship Fund in return for funding the materials for the Babe Ruth dugouts. A. Giansanti said he would let the Commission know where they are going once the decision is made.

He stated that in front of each dugout at the Babe Ruth field there is a gap of about 12 inches between the slab and the fence. This creates a safety issue where the kids can twist their ankles or get caught. D. Bourdeau will look at the situation and contact "Vinny" to pour cement in the gap. A. Giansanti stated there was funding left over from the dugouts to help with material costs

**b. Soccer**

B. Appleby reported the Salem Surge Soccer Club is doing well and they are winning tournaments.

**c. Basketball**

P. Henry reported the regular season is over and the teams will now be competing in the Nutmeg Tournament and the Neil Hoelck Tournament

**d. Multi Purpose Path**

S. Spang informed the Commission that a group of students from Central Connecticut State University will be doing a Capstone project on the two

main crossings. She stated the town's engineering firm will provide supervision at no cost to the town.

**e. Tennis/Basketball Courts**

The project will be finished as soon as the asphalt plants go back on line in warmer weather. S. Spang will contact the contractor to touch base with him.

**f. Field Outreach**

B. Appleby stated that the field outreach committee will be disbanding due to the lack of need.

**7) Other Business**

None

**8) Adjournment**

**M/S/C (Appleby/Giansanti) to adjourn the meeting at 9:43**

Respectfully Submitted

Sue Spang  
Recording Secretary and Chairperson