

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

### FINAL MINUTES

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 @ 7:00 PM

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Holly Eaves	Commissioner	Present
Timothy Quillen	Chairman	Absent
Cheryl Dowdell	Vice Chair	Absent
Julia Beasley	Commissioner	Absent
Ryan Campbell	Commissioner	Present
Sonita K. Cummings	Commissioner	Present
David Currier	Commissioner	Present
Keith D. DeMerchant	Commissioner	Present
Donna M. Deyorio	Commissioner	Present
Jodi Frank	Commissioner	Present
Richard E. Horstmann	Commissioner	Present
Thomas L. Nowell	Commissioner	Absent
Edward Vazquez	Commissioner	Present

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### b. Approval of DRAFT Minutes from February 24, 2015 Meeting

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jodi Frank, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Campbell, Cummings, Currier, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	Eaves, DeMerchant
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

#### 3. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

JoAnn Stolle spoke on behalf of herself and her husband, Stephen Stolle. Ms. Stolle noted that two (2) years ago she and her husband began a petition to ban smoking on the beaches. Ms. Stolle mentioned that her husband had been working together with Parks and Recreation Director Jay Primiano to stop smoking on the beaches. Ms. Stolle continued that she was seeking a plan of action to handle people that continue to smoke. Ms. Stolle asked who would be responsible to speak to people and what would be the repercussions for those caught smoking. Ms. Stolle reported that her husband had been told that the periodic announcements were the equivalent of noise pollution.

Bill Clarkin, Town of Charlestown Beach Manager then spoke towards the issue mentioning that he did say the announcements were noise pollution and that he believes that the issue is managed well. Also, people that smoke know they are not allowed to smoke on the beaches, but continue to do so as there are no repercussions.

Ms. Stolle noted that there were "no smoking" signs and notices on beach receipts but that they were ineffective. She asked that before the beach season begins a plan be devised to deal with beach goers reporting people smoking on the beach and who to go to for a resolution.

Ms. Stolle noted a secondary issue was overfilling the residential lot by packing vehicles in along the boulders making it difficult for traffic to egress and ingress. She noted that it created a dangerous situation and asked that the issues be addressed at the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Ms. Stolle then thanked Director Primiano for his efforts and work towards addressing the issue.

#### 4. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Town Council Liaison Bonnie Van Slyke reported that she had received the ethics advisory and that she was looking forward to working with the Commission.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### a. Flagpole Gardens Update by Cody Clarkin

Cody Clarkin spoke towards his project in Ninigret Park which includes the flagpole area. He noted that the project may take more than two (2) years and that he would continue to work on the project. Mr. Clarkin mentioned that he had a mentor at an architectural firm to assist him. Mr. Clarkin noted changes to the project which included features that would reduce maintenance, keep the current trees, and an improved surface for yoga activities. He noted that the wall materials were being considered.

Mr. Clarkin mentioned some potential fundraising activities and memorial ideas including selling bricks. He noted that Frosty Drew uses selling bricks as a fundraiser and he didn't want to encroach. Commission member Horstmann mentioned that Frosty Drew was saturated and that Mr. Clarkin could proceed with the fundraiser.

He then asked the Commission to make recommendations for anything they may need at the next meeting.

**RESULT: NO VOTE TAKEN**

### b. Scheduling of the Workshop with the Town Council Regarding the Master Plan

Acting Chairperson Sunny Cummings asked for a consensus from the Parks and Recreation Commission for meeting dates. The Commission discussed emailing the Town Clerk their responses individually and the history behind the Master Plan Workshop request and the strategy going forward. The Commission discussed if the purpose of the meeting was for awareness, for socialization of the plan or a working meeting to plan the next step of the Master Plan.

**RESULT: NO VOTE TAKEN**

### c. Positive Coaching Alliance Coaches Training Session

Director of Parks and Recreation Jay Primiano noted the Positive Coaching Alliance Program, a Rhode Island Recreation and Parks initiative. The program would involve the leagues, football and cheerleading organizations, boy and girl scouts, camp counselors and the soccer association. The fee would be \$10 for printed materials from the organization. Director Primiano noted that Parks and Recreation Commission member Julia Beasley is a presenter for the Positive Coaching Alliance.

**RESULT: NO VOTE TAKEN**

### d. Policy for Requiring an Additional Fee of \$2 Per Participant Post Race with the Payment Received No Later Than 14 Days After the Race

Director of Parks and Recreation Jay Primiano spoke about the current \$2 fee charged to for-profit bicycle races. He mentioned that for-profit running races were not charged the fee. He requested the policy be considered.

Commission member Jodi Frank mentioned that she believed the \$2 fee paid by bicycle races was a payment made in good faith because the groups like using the course.

The Commission discussed potentially rolling the \$2 fee into the usage fee, by increasing the initial fee.

The Commission asked Director Primiano to investigate what events may be impacted by the policy.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>TABLED [8 TO 1]</b>	<b>Next: 4/28/2015 7:00 PM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Holly Eaves, Commissioner	
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jodi Frank, Commissioner	
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez	
<b>NAYS:</b>	DeMerchant	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell	

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

### a. Soccerplus Juniors Academy 2015 Field Usage Application

Dave Newbery from Soccerplus Juniors and Matt Denecour from Chariho Youth Soccer spoke about the application for Soccerplus Juniors. It was noted that Soccerplus is technically a for-profit organization and the organization was asking that the fee be waived for the application. Mr. Newbery stated that he was under the impression that the application that was presented and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission in April was for fields to be used in exchange for coaching and that the coaching was worth approximately \$1000, and they were under the impression that in exchange for field use they would be able to provide coaching education given to Chariho Youth Soccer Association. Mr. Newbery stated that the organization serves approximately twenty (20) youth and does not make any profit.

Mr. Denecort explained that Chariho Youth Soccer has a lot of young coaches coming in and that the non-profit organization would greatly benefit from coaching education from Soccerplus and the exchange would offset the costs of bringing in professional coaching by the Soccerplus Organization.

The Commission discussed different ways that Soccerplus could be under the umbrella of a non-profit. Mr. Newbery stated that he was a volunteer for the Soccerplus Organization. The Commission discussed the value of the coaching and supporting the Chariho Youth Soccer Organization.

The Commission discussed waiving the fee for the Soccerplus Organization for the application for the 2014-2015 season since it was not made clear to the organization representative that the fee was not waived and then revisit the fee in the fall.

Mr. Currier then motioned to accept the in-kind service and coaching staff in place of the fees for the current season to be reassessed with the next application. Commissioner Jodi Frank seconded the motion.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [7 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	David Currier, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jodi Frank, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Vazquez
<b>NAYS:</b>	Horstmann
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	Eaves
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

### b. 2015 Crabman Traithlon Race Application

Kathy Robbins from Trimom Productions presented her application for Ninigret Park use for the Crabman Triathlon. Ms. Robbins stated that she was a race producer in Rhode Island for ten (10) years. She explained that the race was a sprint and would take place in the Narrows at U.S. Fish and Wildlife. She continued that she had received a preliminary approval from U.S. Fish and Wildlife to hold the event.

Ms. Robbins noted that the race began at 6:30 AM and she liked to have it broken down by 12:00 PM. The swim was approximately a quarter mile and the transition area would be past the dog park on the access road, which would not be blocked allowing people to use the U.S. Fish and Wildlife area. The park, including the dog park and dog park parking lot would also be open. The bike portion of the race would go out of the park and up to South Kingstown, then would loop around and come back down Route 1. The

turnaround would be at the Crystal Penguin. Ms. Robbins noted that the race was self-sufficient and would use port a potties, ambulances and police.

Ms. Robbins mentioned the Disc Golf Course would remain open, but that the dirt parking area may not be.

Commissioner Jodi Frank recommended that the Salt Pond Coalition be notified and approve the use of the pond. High boating activity was also cited as a concern.

The Commission discussed the fee for the event. The \$2,500.00 donation to Friends of Ninigret Park was noted.

Ms. Robbins noted that the race has to be approved by the Chief of Police.

It was noted that a triathlon event had not occurred in the Park and the fee discussion continued.

Director Primiano asked Ms. Robbins what the South Kingstown fee was. Ms. Robbins responded that the fee was \$2,500.

The Commission continued to discuss the fee for the race and the need to approve the race so it can be promoted. The Commission discussed the difference between the triathlon event and other events in the Park. The Commission determined that the fee for the event would be \$600 because the event would use three (3) areas and serve five hundred (500) participants.

The Commission motioned to approve the application with a fee of \$600 plus the \$2,500 donation to Friends of Ninigret Park and the required approval from U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Salt Pond Coalition.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [8 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Keith D. DeMerchant, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>NAYS:</b>	Frank
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

c. Rhythm and Roots 2015 Event Application

Commission member Holly Eaves asked if the event was the same as it had been in the past. It was noted that the application was the same as last year. The issue with cars parked on the disc golf course in 2014 was noted and addressed.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Ryan Campbell, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

d. NBX 2015 Criterium Course Usage Application

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jodi Frank, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

e. Stedfast Christian Academy Application for Field Day Event

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jodi Frank, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

f. Tom Nowell Fundraising Event

Director of Parks and Recreation Jay Primiano described the event which was to take place at the new pavilion. The fundraiser would be run through a 501c3 organization that assists people with spinal cord injuries. The event would have jazz music and the funds raised would benefit Tom Nowell's recovery. It was noted liquor may be served and that the event organizer would have to apply for a liquor license.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jodi Frank, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

7. PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. March 2015 Director's Report

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Edward Vazquez, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

8. PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

a. March 2015 Program Manager's Report

The Commission discussed the end of basketball season and the success of the Middle School Dance. The summer camp program and the new Tiny Tot program were also discussed.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jodi Frank, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Edward Vazquez, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Friends of Ninigret Park Subcommittee Report  
Commission member and Friends of Ninigret Park member Ed Vazquez mentioned that the Subcommittee was meeting the following day to discuss the September FONP Event.
- b. Dog Park Subcommittee Report  
Dog Park member Sunny Cummings reported that the letters for the renewal of dog licenses were sent out.
- c. Tree Steward's Report  
Tree Steward Jodi Frank noted that Arbor Day was coming up and there were trees lined up for the Park.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commission member Richard Horstmann noted that the road to the Breachway was fixed.

Commission member Sunny Cummings noted that the next Town Council meeting was April 13<sup>th</sup> and asked that the meeting date be added to the Parks and Recreation Agenda.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE - TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015 AT 7:00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL'S TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 4540 SOUTH COUNTY TRAIL

12. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion to adjourn at 8:50 PM

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Edward Vazquez, Commissioner
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Richard E. Horstmann, Commissioner
<b>AYES:</b>	Eaves, Campbell, Cummings, Currier, DeMerchant, Deyorio, Frank, Horstmann, Vazquez
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Quillen, Dowdell, Beasley, Nowell