

TOWN OF RED HOOK RECREATION COMMISSION

7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571

Phone: 845-758-4625 Fax: 845-758-5313

Recreation Commission Monthly Meeting

Monday, 11 February 2013

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted by John D. Kuhn, Park and Programs Director

SEQRA for Recreation Park Extension

Weston & Sampson, the engineering firm hired to do the park design and the grading and erosion plans, completed their work. They provided ten copies of the plan and sent electronic copies to Mike Nowicki from Ecological Solutions who did the wetlands delineation and mitigation work. I will forward copies to Brandee Nelson at Crawford & Associates and to Christine Chale, Town Attorney. This should lead to an ACOE approval in the near future and the completion of the SEQURA process.

Access from Aspinnall Road to Recreation Park Extension

A decision concerning exactly how the land will be designated for use as a pedestrian and bicycle access should be made soon. Working with the Greenway and Trails Committee, we will finish the remaining tree work and construct an attractive and functional guard rail that will prevent vehicle access into the new park.

Recreation Park User Fees – RHCS D

No conclusion has been reached concerning the proposed Intermunicipal Agreement or RHCS D User Fees for interscholastic teams. The Town of Red Hook sent an invoice to the RHCS D on 1 February 2013. Paul Finch, RHCS D Superintendent, responded on 4 February 2013 and stated that "...the fee is excessive." It appears that the RHCS D will not practice or play at the Recreation Park this year unless some dramatic last minute resolution comes to pass.

Youth Member – Recreation Commission/Dutchess County Youth Council

Recommendations/Nominations?

Winter Park Maintenance

Because of the mild weather the park is seeing considerable continued use by walkers with their dogs. Since we now have Mutt Mitt dispensers at both ends of the park that have greatly reduced animal waste problems, we must have garbage cans available all year. I visit the park several times every week and on Sundays replace the Mutt Mitts as required and empty the garbage cans. Removal of downed branches, pickup of paper, plastic bottles, etc. is an ongoing necessity.

St. Margaret's Home

Yankee Construction from Mountainville, NY is still working on the porch. The architect required modifications to the construction that has extended the completion date for the project. The Red Hook Fire Company requested that we notify them a day prior to when we burn the pile of brush. They see no problem with the location or the burning as long as we have a tractor on site to push the pile together as it burns. Jeff Tremper and I will burn the pile as soon as possible. The STMH site is extremely visible to the community, and a major effort has been made to make it as attractive as possible. Eliminating this brush pile will improve the site considerably.

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ABI Infield Rascal

The Infield Rascal is now in the Storage Barn at the Recreation Park. Assembly and wiring for the electric actuator is required. Current plans are to use this as an attachment on the JD670.

Snack Bar Operator

Jim Tuton will not return to run the snack bar in 2013. I left a message for Kate Cavotti to discuss the Snack Bar operation. Until we know for certain whether or not the RHCS D will be playing and practicing at the Recreation Park, it is difficult to estimate potential demand. I suspect that if the RHCS D does not use the park this year, the Snack Bar may not be a viable business.

Roofing Requirements in 2013

New roofs on the dugouts, maintenance building, snack bar, and pavilion may be necessary. As the park approaches 40-years of age, infrastructure repairs and replacements cannot be deferred without consequences.

Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services

Effective 1 January 2013 the Division of Youth Services is no longer under the Department of Services for Aging, Veterans and Youth. That department no longer exists in county government. They are now merged with former Department of Social Services and called the Department of Community and Family Services. In the near future the Youth Bureau will move to 60 Market Street in Poughkeepsie. Until the move is completed, offices will remain at 27 High Street. June Ellen Notaro will remain as the Director, Division of Youth Services

Park Facility Maintenance Requirements for 2013

Find attached the existing maintenance budget.

Picnic Tables

Price quotation attached. NYS Contract #PC64733

Picnic Grills

Price quotation attached. NYS Contract #PC64733

Pavilion Ceiling

Installation of permanent vinyl or aluminum ceiling instead of replacing the ¼" plywood currently on the ceiling may be a better long-term solution. Samples of products are available for review.

Dutchess County Soils and Water/Ed Hoxie

Once again there has been no action planned to remove the trees still in the Sawkill Creek from Hurricane Irene. Using FEMA funds, we removed the four huge trees blocking the stream within our park boundaries. Youth were playing on these trees creating an unacceptable liability for the town. However, the trees to both the north and the south of the park property remain. A major storm may well move them downstream onto our property and/or back up the stream and flood the roller hockey rink. The trees blocking the Sawkill Creek on the west side of the Linden Avenue bridge were cleared by private property owners, so the problems that remain are the immediate north and south borders of the park. I will continue to call Ed Hoxie for updates as I have done every month since Hurricane Irene that occurred in August of 2011.

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Welsh Sanitation Service – Dumpster at Recreation Park

The new contract negotiated with Welsh Sanitation for 2013 provides a dumpster for the Recreation Park that will be emptied once per week at no cost. This is a savings of \$273.84 per month. They also provided us with a pickup on Thursday, 7 February 2013 to take care of the garbage collected at the park since November 2012. This is an indicator of the use of the park that continues over the winter when the weather is mild. I have emptied the three garage containers at the park seven times since November. Weekly service will resume on 1 March 2013.

Recreation Park Project List - Spring 2013

Find attached the project list for the Recreation Park. One of the priorities of 2014 will be to complete the painting and/or staining needed in the park. This list will be “checked off” as each item is completed. This approach worked well last year, but this year I will keep track of the hours required for completion. It is very often that a simple one-line entry requires major man hours of work to complete.

Website Updates

Before the park officially opens on April 15, I hope to have all the items on the Town of Red Hook Recreation Website updated with 2013 information.

Basketball Court and Roller Hockey Rink Repairs

The FEMA funds were finally received after our appeals were upheld. I called Steve Puzio from Copeland Coating Company who gave us the original price quotes for the FEMA claims from Hurricane Irene. He will put us on their schedule for repairs to be done in May if the weather permits. Once these repairs are done, all our FEMA claims will be complete. Paid invoices for all completed work will be provided as required to FEMA.

Tennis Nets

Purchase of two tennis nets is scheduled for this year.

Septic Tank/Grease Trap Cleaning

Based on our every-other-year schedule, the tanks do not require pumping this year.

Playground Safety Fiber

Based on our every-other-year schedule, the playgrounds will require the replacement of 100 cubic yards of safety fiber to remain in compliance with current standards. This will be scheduled for May or early June prior to the start of the Summer Recreation Program.

Language Institute Materials/Supplies in Town Hall Basement

Linda Stoddard cleaned out the Town Hall basement. Located in the file section of the basement are several boxes containing the materials and supplies from the now defunct Language Institute the Recreation Commission ran for ten years at Bard College's Olin Center. The supplies I will give to Johanna Moore for the Summer Recreation Playground. The Spanish and French books and tapes could be given to the RHCS if they want them. I would like to contact them to see if they would be of any use to them since it seems a shame to just let them sit in the basement or to throw them out.