

Meeting of the PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
of the TOWN OF WILTON meeting on May 20, 2009

The regularly scheduled meeting was scheduled for 7pm rather than 7:30 to allow for extra time to work towards the Parks and Recreation Operating Manual. Christine Finkelstein, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 at the Comstock Community Center.

In attendance were Commissioners Christine Finkelstein, Jamie Van Acker, Kevin O'Brien, Anne Richards, Joe Burke and Director of Parks and Recreation Steve Pierce.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved without corrections.

The meeting began with a conversation about the possibility of making the Parks and Recreation Operating Manual available on the website.

A significant portion of the meeting to dedicated to finalizing the re-write of the new Operating Manual.

Parks and Ground Report

The recent wet weather has been a challenge resulting in extra lawn mowing.

Summer help (especially lifeguards) should begin working in the coming weekend. There are many additional projects pending which will be attended to by the Summer help.

The Comstock flagpole is due to be fixed prior to Memorial Day.

Flags on poles in Wilton town center are in place. Flowers will be there by 5/21 and they will hang on the poles by Memorial Day.

P+R redid the Middlebrook infield and sodded the Driscoll field.

Relay for Life was last weekend. The event was a success and despite the amount of post-event cleanup and field work, the field was ready for a 1pm lacrosse game the next day.

Some of the sports groups do not seem to be getting the message when a field closed. P+R is going to focus on communicating that message to these groups.

The Middlebrook recycling club sent a letter to the Bulletin asking for more recycling bins on public fields.

Currently, there are 2 people who do trash runs on Mondays which account for 12 man hours per week. An additional 2 man hours per week are required to pick up the

recycling. There are 8 additional hours allocated for trash pickup each week resulting in a total of 22 man hours per week. This number does not include special events and represents more than 10% of the groundskeeper's work week. P+R believes that additional efficiencies may be possible and will check with other towns for ways in which to improve efficiency.

Steve believes that additional recycling would impact other services within P+R to the detriment of the Department overall.

### Recreation Report

Memorial Day- the Memorial Day Parade Committee has annexed itself from town.

Viewing stand is in place. After the parade, hot dogs will be served at Merwyn Meadows.

July 4<sup>th</sup> - everything is set and ready to go. There will be 3 bands and fireworks for the festivities.

Scheduled payments- the commission expressed unanimous support for a scheduled payment plan for a P+R program which will help a family.

Summer program registration- registration remains slightly ahead of last year but there is no surge in enrollment as was considered possible or even likely due to economic conditions

### Lights at Middlebrook

38' pole needs to be replaced. P+R was asked to consider replacing the 38' poles with 70' poles which would provide additional light.

The general view of the commission was that additional lights would increase use which increases noise and wear and tear on the fields.

There was a motion to upgrade the existing lighting without expansion. 70' poles with Mudusco lights.

The motion was passed unanimously.

## Adjournment

At 9:16 the meeting adjourned to executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph R. Burke, Secretary  
Parks and Recreation Commission