

**Shandaken Recreation Board
Draft Minutes
November 19, 2011**

Call to Order – 6:50 p.m.

Roll Call

The following were present:

- Big Indian Park Manager - Martie Gailes
- Pine Hill Park Manager – Carole Chanler
- Glenbrook Park Manager – Sandra Stanley
- Chairman - Heather Roberts

Absent: Parish Field Park Manager – Michael Formont

Also Present: Alfie Higley – Town Board Liaison
Dave Gilmour – Planner for Comprehensive Plan
Lisa Schnack

Minutes

Martie moved and Heather seconded that the minutes from the October meeting be accepted as modified. The vote was unanimous. Thanks to Sandra for providing the minutes.

Communications, Conditions and Recommendations

Big Indian Park – plans are taking shape for placing and decorating the annual Holiday/Christmas tree.

Smith Park – The Fleischmanns/Pine Hill Rotary has adopted Smith Park and is submitting a Rotary District Simplified Grant on behalf of the Park.

Improvements included in the grant are:

- Building a 8' x 3' raised flower bed
- Planting perennials in the flower bed
- Planting boxwood bushes to soften the fence along the stream
- Placing four park benches to increase seating near the playground and in the shade

Pictures and a simple map were distributed to illustrate the plan. The Fleischmanns/Pine Hill Rotary is seeking \$1,000 funding from the grant and will supplement with \$499.77 in cash contributions and \$584 in in-kind contributions. The project is envisioned to be completed in the Spring of 2013.

It was agreed that the Parks and Recreation Board would provide a letter of support. Martie will draft the letter, print it on Town stationery, and Heather will sign as Chairman.

Carole reported that Ruth Blair, an accomplished gardener in Pine Hill, has expressed an interest in helping. The Pine Hill Community Center will be contacted to solicit their involvement through possibly extending the community garden sponsored by the Center.

Glenbrook Park – The sand box has not yet been removed. The bathrooms are now closed. Additional signage for the bathrooms will likely be added in the spring.

Parish Field – The Turkey Trot (2-mile run/walk) scheduled for Saturday, November 24 has 150 pre-registered participants. It is on track to match last year's numbers. Folks are encouraged to help fill a truck bed (provided by the Town) with donations for the food Pantry. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Shandaken Food Pantry. Contributions so far have underwritten this year's Thanksgiving package provided to needy families.

Heather will check on the status of wood chips for the playground.

Communications to the Chair – A resident of McKinley Hollow had written to complain about hikers trespassing on private property. Heather recommended that these concerns be addressed to the DEC.

Old Business

Parks Comprehensive Plan – Dave Gilmour, consultant for the plan, has requested the following alternative time schedule:

<u>New Proposed Date</u>	<u>RFP Task and Date</u>
December 10, 2012	Nov. 19, 2012 – present Rough Draft
January 7, 2013	Dec. 3, 2012 present Rough Draft to Town Board
Feb. 11, 2013	December 10, 2012 to receive revisions
March 11, 2013	Feb. 11, 2013 – Revised Draft to P&Recreation Board
May 6, 2013	March 4, 2013 - present Final Draft Town Board

Martie moved that the new schedule for the completion of the Parks Comprehensive Plan be adopted. Sandra seconded. The vote was unanimous. Heather will check to see if we need to notify the Greenway Grant offices.

The Board then discussed with Dave a variety of related issues including:

- Funding for the summer recreation program
 - consider initiating a sliding scale of fees per family
 - exploring seeking funding support from the County
 - expanding curriculum development to topics such as nature and ecology, nutrition and active health, etc.
- Recommending the development of a full-year, part-time recreation director
- Existence of biking and hiking clubs and activities (i.e., Lark in the Park)
- Potential new resources such as the proposed Community Pool in Arkville and recreational facilities at the proposed Belleayre Resort

Winter Recreation Program – despite strenuous efforts to change the proposal offered by the new managers of Belleayre Ski Center (ORDA). The program is as follows:

- Children from 8 – 18 may purchase a \$180 ticket valid for 6 Sundays
- Children under 6 ski for free
- Nothing is being offered for children age 7, their parents, or seniors

Heather moved that we request that the Winter Recreation Program offered by Belleayre Ski Center be managed by the Onteora School District so that there would be a central registration and fee collection point. Carole seconded. The vote was unanimous.

New Business

Attendance Requirements and Appointments and Terms of Office –

The Town Board Resolution establishing the Parks and Recreation Board calls for a five-member board (one chair and one manager for each of the four parks: Big Indian, Glen Brook, Phoenicia Parish Field, Smith Park). Failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, without good and sufficient reason, is cause for initiating steps to remove that board member.

The board noted that the work of the Parks and Recreation Board is of growing significance as the Town increasingly focuses on recreational opportunities and facilities for both residents and visitors. A larger board could help distribute the increasing work load. This could be addressed by adding at-large members. The Parks Board would also like the prerogative of granting a leave of absence for members who have an on-going interest and commitment to serving but plan to be absent for several consecutive meetings.

These concerns will be shared with the Town Supervisor so that appropriate solutions can be determined.

Next Meeting Scheduled for: Monday December 10, 2012 – Shandaken Town Hall - 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment – 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Martie Gailes, Board Secretary