

**PARKS AND RECREATION AND
ACQUIRED FACILITIES COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting

Monday, February 4, 2013

Council Chambers, Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 p.m.

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MINUTES

Chairman Cordeau called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Ronald Cordeau, Vice-Chairman Jack Kirschbaum, Steven Lagasse, Robert Sherman, John Curley, and Carl Dambrauskas

MEMBERS ABSENT: Harry Najarian

ALSO PRESENT: Taxpayers: Ralph Membrino, Michelle St. Mary, Susan Charette, Brian Smail, Mary Lou Smail, et al.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

• **Regular Meeting – January 7, 2013**

Upon **MOTION** by Steven Lagasse, seconded by Jack Kirschbaum, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the January 7, 2013 Regular Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE (on file):

1. P&R Expenditure Report as of 1-28-13 (Dept. 521)
2. Purchase Order Requests from Program Director
3. Program Support Request form from the Wolcott Activity & Learning Center (WALC) in the amount of \$8,000
4. Copy of program support check in the amount of \$2,100 to Boy & Girls Summer Basketball
5. Letters dated January 24th requesting bicycle donations for 2013 Annual Easter Egg Hunt
6. Copy of 2012 Field Allotments
7. P&R (Dept. 521) Program Support Allocation Summary as of 1-24-13
8. Acquired Facilities Financial Reports through January 28, 2013 (Dept. 30)
9. Transactions by Account-Wolcott Activity & Learning Center

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Upon **MOTION** by Robert Sherman, seconded by Steven Lagasse, it was unanimously voted to **move** 'Sub-Committee Reports: Walking Trail Update' up on the agenda.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS: WALKING TRAIL

Mr. Lagasse reported that the sub-committee held its first meeting on Wednesday, January 30th. In attendance were the sub-committee members who included himself, Mr. Cordeau, Mr. Kirschbaum, and Mr. Bill Tynan. Joining them were Mr. Tucker, who is the Vice-Chairman of the Inland Wetlands Commission, and Mr. Robert Green who provided the survey work. Mr. Green spent most of the evening explaining the survey work and the area involved. There was also discussion with respect to the Town Engineer's concern over it not covering the entire circumference of the reservoir; the Wolf Hill Road area was omitted because we already knew the boundaries, however, the lower dam area was also omitted. Mr. Green agreed to complete that section which was done today. They also addressed some of Mr. Tucker's initial concerns with respect to the inland wetlands. At this point they are just in the initial stages, and will be drafting a letter to the property owners abutting the area letting them know that the sub-committee will be keeping them informed. They probably won't hold a second meeting until about six weeks from now.

Upon **MOTION** by Robert Sherman, seconded by Carl Dambrauskas, it was unanimously voted to **authorize** a payment of 85% of the total on invoice from Robert Green Associates for surveying.

Upon **MOTION** by Robert Sherman, seconded by Steven Lagasse, it was unanimously voted to **return** to the regular agenda.

TAXPAYERS' TIME: (Limited to Items on the Agenda)

The following taxpayers came forward and expressed their opposition to Walking Trail:

1. **Ralph Membrino, of 53 Coe Road**, came forward and spoke about safety and security concerns with respect to his home

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and family; an unlit public trail abutting his back yard would be unsafe.

2. **Michelle St. Mary, of 549 Woodtick Road** came forward and read a letter expressing concerns into the record (**see attached**).
3. **Susan Charette, of 541 Woodtick Road**, came forward and stated the following concerns: safety & security of her home and family, decrease in property values, and loose animals.
4. **Brian Smail, of 131 Boudline Road** came forward and stated the following concerns: safety of his kids in his yard, loose dogs, and parking issues. He suggested that the trail go over the dam instead.
5. **Mary Lou Smail, of 131 Boundline Road** came forward and stated the following concerns: safety of her children, loss of privacy, wetlands & flooding issues, and a decrease in her property values.

STAFF REPORTS/ PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS: {Dam Inspectors; Woodtick Recreation Area Director; P&R Program Director}

- **Purchase Order Requests**

Upon **MOTION** by John Curley, seconded by Steven Lagasse, it was unanimously voted to **encumber \$425.00** from Dept. 521; line item **#5830** 'Recreational Materials', and **authorize** Mickie Fell to expend up to that amount for assorted candy for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt (**vendor: John Hayes & Sons**) and to also **encumber \$300.00** from Dept. 521; line item **#8110** 'Awards Expense' and **authorize** Mickie Fell to expend up to that amount for Easter baskets and various prizes for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and be reimbursed by the Town (**vendor: Mickie Fell**).

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OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion Regarding Programs & Procedures

There was no discussion regarding the above item.

2. Discussion Regarding Dredging

There was no new information to report; the above item is on hold for the time being.

3. Program Support Allocations

Upon **MOTION** by Steven Lagasse, seconded by John Curley, it was unanimously voted to **allocate \$8,000.00** from line item **#5820** 'Program Support-Other' to the **Wolcott Activity & Learning Center** for Program Support for fiscal year 2012-2013.

4. Discussion Regarding Chestnut Hill Valves

There was no new information to report; the above item is on hold for the time being.

5. Discussion Regarding Dog Park

Trish Mueller has begun looking for volunteers for three committees and will begin planning and fundraising to develop the land for the dog park.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Set 2013 Field Allotments

The Commission set the 2013 Field Allotments the same as 2012, with the exception of not allocating Frisbie Field to the Lions Club for the Wolcott Fair. Midget Football will remain at Frisbie and not have to be sent to Wakelee during that time.

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ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

Old Business:

- Discussion Regarding Programs & Procedures
- Discussion Regarding Dredging
- Program Support Allocations
- Discussion Regarding Chestnut Hill Valves
- Discussion Regarding Dog Park

TAXPAYERS' TIME:

No taxpayers came forward.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon **MOTION** by Robert Sherman, seconded by Steven Lagasse, it was unanimously voted to **adjourn** the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

Elizabeth Gaudiosi
Commission Secretary

Ronald Cordeau, Chairman
**Parks & Recreation & Acquired
Facilities Commission**

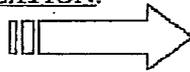
**WOLCOTT PARKS & RECREATION & ACQUIRED FACILITIES COMMISSION
TOWN OF WOLCOTT**

10 Kenea Avenue
Wolcott, CT 06716

Phone: 203-879-8100 • Fax: 203-879-8105

The Wolcott Parks & Recreation & Acquired Facilities Commission is requesting this information from all of the organizations that we dispense funds to. This information will allow us to disperse funds to the organizations and also give a better accounting of how the Town's funds are being spent. It is required of your organization to supply us with this information. Please fill out this form completely and return it to us ASAP.

NAME & ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION:

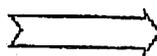


The Wolcott Activities & Learning Center
48 Todd Road
Wolcott, CT 06716

	Column A	Column B	Column C
1. Number of Children in Non-Travel Program Enter in Column A	→ varies	400 ⁺	
2. Number of Children in Travel Program Enter in Column A	→ 0		
1 a. Fee Charged per Child (Non-Travel) Enter in Column B		→ \$	
2 b. Fee Charged per Child (Travel) Enter in Column B		→ \$	
3. How many non-resident children/teams participate in your program? Enter in Column A	→ 0		
4. Fee charged for non-resident participants? Enter in Column B		→ \$	
5. Is the Child's Uniform Included in the Fee? Enter in Column A	→ Y/N		
6. Average Cost of the Uniform IF Included in the Fee Enter in Column C			→ \$
7. Cost of Insurance Per Child Fee Enter in Column C			→ \$
8. Are you Charged a Per Child Fee from a State or Regional Organization? If YES, How Much? Enter in Column C	Non Travel		→ \$
	Travel		→ \$
9. What is the Organization's Average Yearly Net Profit From Donations? Based on the last 3 years Enter in Column B		→ \$1,500.00	
10. What is the Organization's Average Yearly Net Profit From Fundraising? **Don't include Town of Wolcott Funds Enter in Column B		→ \$ 2,500.00	
11. Yearly Net Costs of Awards, Trophies, & Banquets Enter in Column C			→ \$
12. Yearly Net Profit from Snack bar Sales Enter in Column B		→ \$ 500.00	
13. Average Yearly Equipment Costs (based on last 3 yrs) Enter in Column C			→ \$:
14. Average Yearly Maintenance Costs (based on last 3 years) (Fields, bleachers, fencing, etc) Enter in Column C			→ \$10,000.00
15. What is your Average Yearly Cost for Umpires, Referees, and/or Officials? Enter in Column C			→ \$ 2,200.00
16. What are your Average Yearly Rental Costs? (Port-O-Lets, gym time, and field rental) Enter in Column C			→ \$
17. What are Your Average Yearly Administrative Fees? (based on last 3 years) Postage, office supplies, accounting services) Enter in Column C			→ \$ 1,500.00

WHAT IS YOUR ORGANIZATION'S BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE 2012 FISCAL YEAR?

2013



\$ 8,000.00

3:38 PM
02/04/13
Accrual Basis

Wolcott Activities & Learning Center Transactions by Account As of December 31, 2012

Date	Name	Split	Amount
04/05/2012	Barry reeve	62845 · Maintenance & Repair	-150.00
01/18/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-418.57
02/06/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-198.70
04/03/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-394.27
05/16/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-168.40
06/15/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-137.24
07/27/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-198.46
08/08/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-207.98
09/04/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-225.08
10/23/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-198.65
11/01/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-176.80
12/05/2012	CL&P	62880 · Utilities	-203.51
02/08/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-0.42
03/02/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.43
04/03/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.43
05/16/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.43
06/15/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-314.68
07/27/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.39
09/04/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.39
09/27/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.63
10/23/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.91
11/29/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.91
12/26/2012	Comcast	62880 · Utilities	-157.93
01/25/2012	Deposit	46420 · Facility Rental Revenue	50.00
05/03/2012	Karen Hamel	65040 · Supplies	-33.97
01/05/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-800.00
01/18/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
02/06/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
04/12/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
05/24/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
06/15/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
08/08/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
09/27/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
10/22/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
12/05/2012	Musco Propane	62885 · Propane	-400.00
04/03/2012	Northwest Environmental Water Labs	62845 · Maintenance & Repair	-12.00
04/03/2012	Northwest Environmental Water Labs	62845 · Maintenance & Repair	-68.00
08/08/2012	Northwest Environmental Water Labs	62845 · Maintenance & Repair	-68.00
10/23/2012	Northwest Environmental Water Labs	62845 · Maintenance & Repair	-70.00
11/01/2012	Northwest Environmental Water Labs	62845 · Maintenance & Repair	-70.00
12/06/2012	Pam Laliberte	65041 · Program Supplies	-53.88
06/02/2012	Pat's IGA	65060 · miscellaneous expense	-125.00
05/24/2012	Philidelphia Insurance Co.	65120 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	-1,104.00

3:38 PM
02/04/13
Accrual Basis

Wolcott Activities & Learning Center
Transactions by Account
As of December 31, 2012

08/08/2012	Postmaster	65020 · Postage, Mailing Service	-96.00
01/18/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-105.00
01/18/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-75.00
03/29/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-105.00
03/29/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-75.00
06/15/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-75.00
06/15/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-105.00
09/04/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-105.00
09/04/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-75.00
12/05/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-75.00
12/05/2012	Sterling Security	62850 · Security/Fire Alarm	-105.00
02/02/2012	TD Bank	65060 · miscellaneous expense	-29.50
03/30/2012	Terri Farrar	62845 · Maintenance & Repair	-43.85
01/12/2012	Tom Centinaro	65060 · miscellaneous expense	-162.52
05/16/2012	Tom Centinaro	65040 · Supplies	-414.45
06/07/2012	Tom Centinaro	65040 · Supplies	-135.93
12/17/2012	Tom Centinaro	65041 · Program Supplies	-287.61
04/19/2012	Webmastery.Org	65005 · Advertising	-195.00
09/08/2012	Webmastery.Org	65005 · Advertising	-195.00
			<u>-12,825.92</u>
			<u>-12,825.92</u>

Hello and Good Evening,

My name is Michelle St.Mary, and I am a lifelong resident of Wolcott. Along with my husband Steven we have two children Amanda and Andrea, we reside at 549 Woodtick Road. We are against the proposed extension of the walking trail that will visually border our property lines.

For over 50 years this home has been in our family. The land was purchased directly from Scovill Manufacturing in 1962. It boasts a private back yard and spectacular views of Scovill Reservoir. My husband and I plan to retire in this home. During the fairer months, outdoor gatherings with friends and family are a regular occurrence. We play lawn games, dine at our picnic table, and enjoy our fire pit that sits on our property approx. 80 feet from the water. It is the home of our dreams. We are taxpayers of Wolcott and hard working residents that work seven days a week to maintain ownership of this home. To put a public walking trail between my backyard and the water would not be fair to my family or any other family living adjacent to the walking trail.

The proposed walking trail will walk for 150 feet along the width of our property, if that is not enough, I believe it will also walk the complete length of my property for 228.15 feet along side my home. A little further it would be a complete circle. I believe our home will be impacted more than anybody else on the reservoir.

The proposed walking trail will compromise the safety of my two children and the rest of the children that reside along the trail. The trail would facilitate interaction between my family and the strangers, who use the trail, which I would not feel comfortable with on my own property.

The proposed walking trail would also lack suitable access and safe parking. There are no parking spaces or sidewalks along Woodtick, Bound Line and Coe Roads. We often find that visitors and people fishing, park their cars alongside our properties, as there is no available street parking. We find this to be a great inconvenience, as well as safety hazard to other motorists and people walking to and from their cars. With no parking areas

or parking spaces, strangers can and will disrobe in front of our homes putting on their sneakers, walking and hiking outfits.

The proposed walking trail also opens up our property to more trespassers. Weekly, trespassers will fish along the reservoir and cut through our yards and watch us work, and then behave as if it were completely within their right to be there. We find this to be an invasion of privacy. Our families and our day-to-day activities should not be on display for the people walking along the trail.

The current walking trail does not border private homes within such a close proximity, and we believe that our homes should not become the exception. Trespassing can also lead to accidents. My husband and I and the bordering property owners are concerned about trespassers getting hurt on our land and the potential liability that we will face.

Another major concern of ours is security after dark. I personally have driven by the current walking trail and have seen strangers and dog walkers with flashlights wondering the path after 9:00pm. It is my understanding that the current walking trail closes at 9:00pm, but it is obvious that this is not being enforced. This lack of enforcement indicates to me that no efforts will be made to patrol any extended walking trails in the future, which is even more distressing as the trail will be much closer to private residences. Vandalism and theft are also other possibilities. If these such crimes occur, will the town be responsible for the damage incurred to our property?

The proposed walking trail will also allow strangers walking their unleashed dogs access to surrounding properties, which could potentially compromise the safety of the families living on the reservoir. There is the possibility of a misbehaved dog attacking residents on their property, and the spread of dog feces along the walking trail. Who is responsible for keeping these trails clean? We intentionally do not have a dog in our family, and a walking trail would force us to experience the negative aspects of canine behavior. Currently, there are no rules posted at the trail concerning dogs and leashes.

We also feel the proposed walking trail will lead to an increase in littering and eventually migrate in the reservoir. This pollution would negatively

impact the health of the residents using the water, as well as the general health of the surrounding ecosystem. We already pick up litter dropped by strangers, locals fishing along the shoreline or thrown in by kayakers and canoers. From broken fishing line, to water bottles, Dunkin' Donuts coffee cups, miscellaneous garbage and even old tires, we have recovered all manner of rubbish along our property. Will the town also pick up litter thrown on our property from trail users or will that be left to the homeowners?

What has the town done to ensure that the surrounding habitat will not be affected by the extension of the walking trail? The trail will obviously cut down brush and trees to make way, which is an unfortunate sacrifice. We also question the methods that the Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments will use to engineer a stable pathway on some of the narrower ground along the water and the roadway, which is also unstable, marshy, water-logged land. I would imagine that construction materials and sand would need to be brought in to build a pathway, which could potentially erode and runoff into the surrounding water and spike turbidity levels within the water.

The proposed walking trail also leads to public urination. What will happen if you were to extend this trail all the way around the reservoir with no public toilets available, and walkers need to relieve themselves?

The final and largest concern for our families on the proposed walking trail is the noise. From everyday chatter, whining and screaming children in baby strollers, barking dogs and owners yelling and whistling at their dogs, loitering, loud music, snowmobiles and ATVS that will travel along the path in the winter, this trail has the potential to increase noise pollution along the entire perimeter of this quiet and peaceful reservoir. As you may know, sound has the ability to travel farther and louder over water, thus residents on all parts of the lake will be able to hear this nuisance, no matter how far away it originates. The noise will encroach upon our day-to-day life, during the morning, afternoon, and even at night. We will be unable to spend any time alone outside without the constant presence, sight and noise of strangers, and when we are inside, we will still be forced to see and hear the noise from the trail.

For over 50 years, the St. Mary family has had to maintain the town property behind our home as if our own. From clearing rotted and damaged trees

caused by previous ice and windstorms that have fallen onto our property. We have pulled rotted tree stumps and removed litter from the town property. Not once in 50 years have we seen the town take care of this property behind our home.

We would like to make it clear, that we are very much in favor of walking trails for outdoor recreation and the enjoyment of nature. The current walking trails suits the needs of the people the way it was intended for. However, we feel that this extended walking trail will have adverse affects beyond what is readily apparent. The homeowners along the reservoir would like to see the money spent on fixing and repairing the existing trail with a footbridge over the dam and perhaps enhancing the public launch area with improved parking, restrooms, and picnic tables etc.

We know your intentions are not to do anything that would affect our property values, but having said that, the location of this public trail directly behind and alongside our homes would certainly do just that. A public walking trail should not be behind private backyards, and potential buyers and real estate assessors would not view this in our favor, despite our lack of involvement and lack of consent to this project.

To think that my town can come in and interfere with my dream home and the other dream homes along the reservoir and safety of our families, without offering a convenient time to meet and discuss the project or its alternatives, is most disheartening. The way we all found out about the trail was uncalled for. Seeing surveyors around our property and then finally asking them what was going on was not how we should have learned of the project. We do not receive the newspaper, therefore we did not know of the referendum in August 2011. We feel ignored and as though our place as loyal residents and taxpayers of this town has been undermined.

Please, we are all asking you to take what we have said tonight into consideration, and examine all of the potential unwelcome aspects of this project.

Thank you for your time

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

TAXPAYERS' TIME
SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME(Please Print)

ADDRESS (Please Print)

Ralph Membrino

53 Loe Rd.

Michelle Starny

549 Woodstock Rd.

Joseph M. Chantler

5211 Woodstock Road

Brian Smoil

131 Burnside Rd

Mary Lou Smoil

131 Board Line Rd

