

**TOWN OF WEYMOUTH
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
11 July 2012
MINUTES**

Members Present: Colleen Kelley, Janelle Quinn, Karen Johnston, Art Del Rosso, Mike Doyle

Not present: Steve Reilly

1. I did not send out minutes from the last two meetings. (06 June 2012; 20 June 2012)
2. Jim Clarke has hired Rod Fuqua, retired Town Planner, to finish up the “Open Space and Recreation Plan.” Jim needs to hold a public hearing before the plan is considered finished and would like to do that 30, 32 July or 01 August, whatever is best for the Rec Com. [30 July was chosen as the date].
3. Mission statement: sent out suggestions for review. Art suggested “word smitthing” the definitive statement on the white board. We took the best elements of the statements and strung the words together to create the Weymouth Rec Mission Statement. After several rounds of revisions, new thoughts and discussion, we came to this mission statement:

“The mission of the Weymouth Recreation Commission is to optimize recreational opportunities, promote citizen involvement, create a sense of community and support recreational resources to support social and physical well being.”

I will send this out to everyone for one last look and final edits.

4. Community Preservation update: Governor Patrick signed the legislation on 06 July 2012 with the revised recreational component intact. The bill passed the House and Senate unanimously, but with different funding levels. The House wanted \$25 million and the Senate wanted \$5 million. After discussions, the agreed funding is \$25 million and that will be delivered to the Community Preservation Trust in 2013. The Legislature would like to make the additional funding available in the future and not just this one time. The best part is cities and towns will now be able to use CP funds for existing parks.

We will need to discuss how we would like to see CP funds used and work with the Community Preservation Committee to make sure the Town gets the best value for the money.

5. Art has contacted the person involved with Weymouth Parks Facebook page and she has been out of town but will speak with Art soon tell him what the group has done park work wise and anything they have planned for the future.
6. A suggestion to raise park funds is to ask Mayor Kay to raise the meals tax by 1%. It is an initiative being encouraged by the State Treasurer, Steve Grossman. Some area Towns have started doing this. We need to find out what towns have put the meals tax increase into effect and how they are using the money and an estimate of what a 1% increase will generate per year. We will assemble a report and present it to the Mayor.

7. Next Rec Com meeting will be Wednesday 08 August 2012 at 7:00 PM.

Let us adjourn.