Milford Recreation Commission
May 14, 2008

Attendees:

Mary Albina	Scott Hembrow	Bill Ruoff, DPW
Nicole Banks	Claudia Lemaire	Guy Scaife, Town Administrator
Joan Dargie	Bill McKinney	Fred Douglas, Chief, Milford PD
Tim Finan	Walter Smith	Joe Pavolaitis, Senior Center

Keyes Park: Bill Rouff announced that the Town has decided to increase the Park Ranger program by adding Rangers to the park earlier in the year and keeping them later after the pool closes to help deter the amount of damage and inappropriate activities taking place at the park. There will be park rangers during extended daytime hours as well as the weekends. In addition, there will be a set of offenses imposed:

Offenses:

- 1st Offense = a 30 day restriction from the park
- 2nd Offense = a 60 day restriction from the park
- 3rd Offense = a permanent restriction from the park

If any of these offenses are violated, they will be arrested and handled through the Juvenile System.

In addition, there will be a "panic button" installed at the pool for the park employees in case they feel there is a safety issue that may need the immediate attention of the PD. The panic button will be a direct call to MACC Base. Bill and Guy also reported that gates will be installed along the road into Keyes Park as well as on the footbridge.

Scott recommended that as conditions improve, we should be sure to get press coverage to let the public know that

Minutes and Agendas: Guy reminded Walter that this Commission needs to be more attentive to the statutory issues that guide these affect these areas. Agendas need to be published in advance so that the public can participate when they see items on the agenda. Minutes also need to be published in a timely manner so that the public can be made aware of the issues that were discussed as well as the action items that are assigned to different Commission members and Town Employees.

Senior Center: Joe reported that the Milford Senior Center Committee is moving along. They have met with the Bales Study Committee to see if they can be considered for some of the space during the proposed Bales Renovation.

Joe mentioned that the Milford Methodist Church had offered the use of their space as a temporary site for the senior center but they need to have liability insurance coverage before that can happen. Joan asked if the Milford Seniors can be covered under an "umbrella" of the Town Insurance Policy since it is technically an arm of the Recreation Department. Bill will look into it.

He reported that there are new members of the Committee in the positions of secretary and treasurer.

He mentioned that he is looking for a temporary space to store some items that were left to them from a senior who passed away. They want to use these items for a future fund raiser. Joan will assist with finding space.

Concession Stand: Nicole presented the Commission with the new Concessions Agreement for the Keyes Pool Concession stand. The discussion about eliminating the #8.2 Percentage of Sales: The Concessionaire agrees to pay the Town an amount equal to10% of the Concessionaire's net sales - see contract for further details. Nicole recommended that we bring these questions up to Jack in the finance Department next month about this. Nicole recommended that we do not change the contract at this time and Joan bring a waiver to the Commission to waive the 10%. Joan reported that the Town has $1000 damage deposit still on hold for the upcoming summer.

Mary made a motion that we continue to work with the Enrichment Program for the summer in the concession stand. Scott 2nd. All in favor.

Milford Riders: Via e-mail from Rick:

"Walter,
I am traveling and will not be able to attend the meeting tonight. Skateboard Park Update I have met with the Riders a few times and am working on a new crop of young men to help keep the Riders involved. The new president is Zach Ross. He has been an active Rider for several years. He is going to be a junior next year. He is quiet but has the respect of a lot of the young park users. I think this role as president could be a good thing for Zach. The vice-president is Brandon Kluz - Brandon is in middle school and has been involved with the Riders since the beginning. Mona Kluz is an active parent and has been helpful to me and the Riders for many years. I have also enlisted Ben Jenson, Bud Theriault, Bruce O'Malley and am trying to learn the names of other young men that would like to help keep the park clean.

I have also made it part of my routine to go by the park at dusk (7-8 pm) or first thing in the morning (6:15 am) to check on the condition of the park. The cleanliness of the park is strictly a maintenance issue. Clean it daily for 5 minutes and it's bearable. Don't clean the park for a few days and it starts to look like a dump. When I go buy at night and on the weekends I take a few minutes to say hi to some of the kids and ask them to lend me a hand. They are always polite.

It rained two Sunday's and last Sunday was mother's day. I bought 4 gallons of paint but haven't had an opportunity to apply it. Maybe Sunday. The Riders did repair the half-pipe bump. It looks good. Nicole had scheduled a safety check 5/5. I haven't heard the results.

I must say, I don't see any evidence of gang activity. I do have to ask people not to smoking.

Nicole, Maybe you could print out the reports for the committee."

Minutes:
Joan made a motion to approve the December 2007 Minutes. Claudia 2nd. All in favor.
Joan made a motion to approve the January 2008 Minutes. Claudia 2nd. All in favor.
Joan made a motion to approve the March 2008 Minutes. Claudia 2nd. All in favor.
Joan made a motion to approve the April 2008 Minutes. Claudia 2nd. All in favor.

Communication: Joan again asked that we establish better communication with the DPW, Nicole and the Commission about vandalism (etc) at the park – or any park in the Town. Tim said this is a common problem in Town at this time. Nicole will talk to Bill about sharing info and try to establish a process that works for her.

Director's Report: Nicole presented the Director's Report. Financial Aide Scholarship program will be run the similar to last year but some changes need to be made because we have more programs for this summer. If it's an in-house program, we can waive 100% of the fees but if it's a contract program, we can waive the % of the Rec. fee.

Mary made a motion to approve the Financial Aide Scholarship program as outlined in the Director's Report. Scott 2nd. All in favor.

Rotary Swim Meet: Nicole presented the updated Rotary information. She also stated that she had received the request from the Rotary for the field fee waiver.

Joan made a motion to approve the Field Fee waiver from the Rotary Club. Scott 2nd. All in favor.

July 4th: Nicole requested that we set up a separate meeting to discuss the July 4th activities. June 5th, 6:30 at the Pasta Loft.

Keyes Stage: Nicole reported that everyone approved the wording for the plaque that will be hung on the stage. She will let Matt know that the wording is approved. She also reported that Matt left $685 to finish running the electricity to the stage. Nicole received a quote from Blaze electric for approx $2000. This quote also includes running the electricity to the Pavilion. Blaze will run the wire under the stage, around the back of the stage, additional lighting with separate controls and a vandal proof box around the electricity.

Joan made a motion to spend $1000 from the Rec. Commission budget to complete the program. Claudia 2nd. Scott asked that we go back to Blaze and ask of there is any way that he can reduce that cost and ask what the original plan was when he met with Matt.

Soccer Field: The underground wiring for the lighting at Keyes that used to run over the soccer field is complete. The transfer of electricity will happen 15 May. Once this is complete, we can invoice SVU for the remainder of the bill.

Joan amended her motion to state: to spend up to $1000 for the completion of the electrical work after Nicole talks with DPW about alternative vendors or ways to cut costs. Claudia 2nd. All in favor.

New Business: Mary asked that the Commission considering support of Milford-On-Track fundraising effort with their annual Golf Tournament. She reminded the Commission that we donated money last year. Topic was tabled until next month.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:32. Next meeting is set for June 5, 2007 at the Pasta Loft.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Albina, Secretary