

Burrillville

Recreation Commission

RE: Minutes, May 9, 2005

**Present: Cheri Hall, Director Juliette Lopez Niki Decubellis Brown
Kurt Schatz Al Musso Nancy Binns-Town Council Liaison
Alice Lavigne Dave Marcotte**

Guest: Bruce Pilling

Absent: Al Low

Excused: Alan Gerew, Alternate

Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Kurt Schatz, Chairman, at the Burrillville Town Hall.

Minutes of April 11, 2005 Regular Meeting were accepted. Motion to accept made by Alice Lavigne. Seconded by Juliette Lopez. Motion passed 6-0.

Good and Welfare:

Dave Marcotte questioned who was putting on the summer basketball program. The Director stated Skyhawks will be running the program

for ages 7 to 14 for a second year for the Parks and Recreation Department. A flyer was distributed to the commission to review the program. The flyer will be distributed to the middle school students.

The Director reported that Saturday's Family Fair went well in spite of the rain with the Teddy Bear parade taking place throughout the A.T. Levy School. A thank you goest to Recreation Commission member Alice Lavigne for supplying the Jester costume for the Director to wear. Bruce Pilling assisted with the sound system and Recreation Commission member David Marcotte provided the helium for the balloons. The performance by Toe Jam Puppet Theatre funded by the Holly Brizard Memorial Foundation was a great success. In future years the rain location might have to be relocated to the Burrillville Middle School.

Old Business: The Director reported:

Skate Park

Issue with children not wearing helmets while on skate park which brings some safety concerns. The Police officers are assisting to patrol the park. Trash has also been an issue. If necessary, the park will be closed due to cleanup. This should get a message to the kids to take care of the park.

The Director will have the issue of the use of skateboards and bikes being utilized on the equipment at the same time on the Rhode Island

Recreation and Parks Association meeting agenda for this Wednesday, May 11, 2005. The Director will then ask other Rhode Island Directors how they handle this situation.

Banners

Pat Mehrtens of the Burrillville Bicentennial Committee presented a sample of the artwork for replacement banners throughout the town. A letter from Pat Mehrtens requesting the placement of these banners on the existing brackets was reviewed. The Director voiced her concern regarding the use of vinyl versus cloth.

A motion to accept the design for the Bicentennial Banners as presented. Motion made by Alice Lavigne. Seconded by Niki Decubellis Brown. Motion passed 6-0.

Spring Lake Beach

Preparations for the Memorial Day weekend opening are underway including new benches being ordered. A tour of the Spring Lake Beach Facility took place recently as part of the Blackstone River Valley Tourism locations. A new seasonal maintenance person, Tom Emidy, has been a great help with all the Spring Lake Beach Facility preparations.

League Budget Requests

The Director thanked Bruce Pilling for all his hard work preparing the excel spreadsheet to assist the subcommittee with the new league budget process. The excel report was shared with the commission to demonstrate the \$20 per participant being allotted and the percentage of the total budget allotted for all leagues. Figure skating is going to be affected the most with a decrease from \$7,500 to \$2,600 to support their total budget of \$28,000. Discussion regarding the institution of the new budget process to allow for planning by the leagues and discussion regarding the fees being charged to the leagues by the Levy Rink took place. The Director stated a survey be done asking other Rhode Island communities what they charge for ice time per hour and league registration fees.

A motion to accept the new budget formula for deciding league funding as proposed was made. Motion made by Alice Lavigne. Seconded by Juliette Lopez. Motion passed 6-0.

A motion to send an invitation to the leagues to invite them to the next Recreation Commission meeting on June 13, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Motion made by Juliette Lopez. Seconded by Al Musso. The information will be handed out the night of the meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

Hauser Field/Branch River Project

The electrical power is on. Little League softball will only need one field lit for night games at Hauser Field. A letter from the Director was forwarded to the Recreation Commission making them aware of the lighting schedule at Hauser Field. Landscaping delayed around the new building until the installation of the new sewer connection is complete.

Summer Programs

The sample of the summer program Bargain Buyer advertisement was shared with the commission demonstrating all the Parks and Recreation Department will be offering this summer. Individual event flyers were shared also. Additional summer concert funding from Ocean State Power for \$500 and Citizens Bank will fund one of the children's shows for \$325 have been received. The May monthly calendar was distributed.

The Burrillville Extended Care flyer for their new middle school program called the Junior Police Academy was shared. The Rhode Island Foundation funding request was received and will be reviewed at their next meeting. A meeting with Dave Beauchemin and Kathan Mospaw was held. They will be assisting with the new program. Kurt Schatz will check into the Environmental Crime and Littering program being offered for the program.

Relay for Life

A team captains meeting will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2005. Dave Marcotte will be in attendance.

Land Acquisition

The land discussed previously for the bike path and railroad is currently being appraised. It has taken longer due to it being more involved than originally anticipated. This will be utilized for the upcoming State of Rhode Island Open Space grant round.

Grant Rounds

The State of Rhode Island Trails and Greenways grant round in June 2005 will be utilized for the purchase of a new Bobcat to complete the walking path at Hauser Field and numerous other uses. Department of Public Works Director Richard Bernardo has supplied the quote for approximately \$30,000 including the attachments needed.

Spring Lake Beach Campground

The Spring Lake Beach Campground is nearly complete. The subcommittee will meet regarding the regulations for the use of the

campground. Information from other local campgrounds was gathered to assist with the regulation process. The subcommittee will meet after this evenings meeting to discuss the regulation process.

Grant Rounds

The State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management next small grant round this summer will be for the equipment with the next large grant round this fall. The next project would be track resurfacing to be included in next year's budget for capital improvements.

Shippee Bridge

Department of Transportation and not Fish and Wildlife has jurisdiction over the Shippee Bridge area. A suggestion to adopt the area as a park and not take over the land ownership was proposed along with any fees to Adopt-A-Spot being waived.

Cristavao Property

Juliette Lopez questioned if anything further had been done on the recreational area being donated to the town by Mr. DeCristavao. The Director reported that Mr. Cristavao had been out of town but she would be in contact with him in the near future regarding this matter.

New Business:

Community Recreation Sign

The Director requested Jeff Farrell of Farrell signs give us information on the replacement of the Community Recreation sign at the Burrillville Community Recreation Center (Beckwith-Lodge). A sample drawing was supplied to the commission for their review. A suggestion to have the sign as an Eagle Scout project was given.

Spring Lake Beach funding

The \$5,000 amount that the town has given annually to offset the cost of the Burrillville Family passes was suggested to be discontinued by the Town Finance Director John Mainville. The Director stated the state regulation mandates require that we cannot charge a non-resident more than twice what we charge for a resident pass. The \$5,000 pays for \$10 of the normal \$25 resident pass fee to enable the fee of \$50 for a non-resident pass. The \$5,000 also contributes to matching funds for any grant requests.

Recreation Center

Every year we have \$13,000 budgeted for the Recreation Center expenses. Fees are charged to the Instructors for their use of the Recreation Center and other rentals. The Parks and Recreation Department takes in approximately \$4,000 per year for the Recreation

Center account from these fees. The Finance Director stated that these funds should be deposited into the general fund. The Director stated these funds are accumulated to enable maintenance of the Recreation Center. These funds are also utilized for grant matches. An increase was requested for the oil fees but was denied by the Town Manager. The Finance Director also stated the expansion of the Recreation Center offices is not needed since these offices should be moved to the old library building or elsewhere. All other Directors of Parks and Recreation officers are always located at the Community Recreation Centers to better assist the patrons.

BEC

A BEC Board of Directors meeting will be held next month. Dave Beauchemin is trying to raise funds for an outdoor basketball court at the high school. Approximately \$7,000 of the \$8,000 needed has already been raised to date. At the next BEC Board of Directors meeting a letter from Dave Beauchemin will be submitted to request assistance for the \$1,000 balance needed. Dave Marcotte stated it possibly could be an outside volleyball court. The new hoops and park benches are being installed at the skateboard park in June.

Frisbee

A letter was received from the New England Disc Dog Club to use one of our fields on four separate Sundays this summer. Dave Marcotte

voiced concern over the possible destruction of the fields by the dogs. Hauser is already utilized by Men's Softball on Sundays. The only field recommended was behind the Burrillville Middle School.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made by Alice Lavigne. Seconded by David Marcotte.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. Motion Passed 6-0.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 13th, 6:30p.m., Town Council Chambers.

Workshop of the Subcommittee regarding League Budgets and Spring Lake Beach Campground Regulations after the meeting.

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