

**Burrillville**

**Recreation Commission**

**RE: Minutes, January 9, 2006**

**Present: Cheri Hall, Director      Dave Marcotte      Kurt Schatz      Al**

**Musso**

**Alice Lavigne      Al Gerew      Juliette Lopez      Nancy Binns-Town**

**Council Liaison**

**Guest: Susan Sayler, John Bateman and Bruce Pilling**

**Absent: -----**

**Excused: Al Low**

**Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Kurt Schatz, Chairman, at the Burrillville Town Hall.**

**Minutes of December 12, 2005 Regular Meeting were accepted. Al Gerew reported a change to the December 12, 2005 minutes to read Burrillville Junior Hockey registrations being down a total of 22 members from last season's registration or 8% (not (36%). Motion to accept made by David Marcotte. Seconded by Al Gerew. Motion passed 5-0.**

## **Good and Welfare:**

**Town Council voted to approve the new Recreation Center sign proposed by Farrel Signs.**

**A notice from the National Parks and Recreation Association on behalf of the N.E.T.I. Program Committee was received in acceptance of the proposal for presentation at the 2006 N.E.T.I. conference in Newport, RI by the Director and Burrillville Extended Care Co-Directors. The proposal is regarding the introduction of a licensed before and after school program. The presentation will take place on April 4, 2006 at 8:00 a.m. with an invitation extended to the Recreation Commission to attend.**

## **Correspondence:**

**None**

**Kurt Schatz recommended a change in Agenda order to hear the agenda item under New Business titled “Spring Lake Beach Bids” to accommodate guest John Bateman. At this time, Juliette Lopez recused herself from the commission for the Spring Lake Beach Concession bids agenda item.**

## **New Business:**

**Spring Lake Beach Bids**

**The Director reported that she and Recreation Commission Member Alice Lavigne, as the witness, handled the bid openings on Thursday, January 5, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. for the Concession Bid opening and at 11:30 a.m. for the Arcade Bid Opening. Two bids were received for the Concession and one for the Arcade to be reviewed by the Recreation Commission.**

**Kurt Schatz questioned if a specific form or paperwork was required to be completed by the bidders. The Director reported that what was required was stated in the advertisement and bid packets, which included what the required minimum bid amounts are to be considered. The minimum bid for the Concession bid was \$5,800. The minimum bid for the Arcade was \$4,000. The Director reviewed the Arcade and Concession bid specifications for the commission.**

**Kurt Schatz reviewed that one Concession bid was for \$7,000 and the second being \$7,200. The Concession bid for \$7,200 proposes renovations to the facility. The Director reported that according to the bid proposal of \$7,200 the renovation costs would be the responsibility of the town. The town does not have monies allocated at this time for this type of renovations. The Director reported that when the town completed renovations on the Spring Lake Beach Facility in the year 2000 the possibility of installing new electric fryolators was investigated but would be very costly due to an upgrade of the entire system. Consequently, this change was never**

done. Commission member David Marcotte stated as a business owner that whenever he recommended changes of this kind, it was his responsibility as the renter and not the owner of the building to absorb these costs.

The Director reported that when soft serve ice cream was researched previously, the Department of Health did not recommend it at the beach facility. Kurt Schatz questioned the \$7,200 Concession bidder, John Bateman, if he would still be interested in bidding if the costs for all the requested renovations would be at the cost of the bidder. John Bateman stated he would pay these renovation costs but would work with town officials for approval of said changes. Bids would be approved for three years with possible negotiation of renewal for two more years for a total of five years. Kurt Schatz questioned if a food certificate would be acquired previous to opening. John Bateman stated it would be acquired. The Director stated the current vendor has the certifications needed and experience necessary and would like that to be taken into consideration. The certification classes are offered twice a year, once in the spring and fall. A review of the menu of the current vendor took place. David Marcotte voiced concerns regarding the approval for soft serve ice cream by the State of Rhode Island Department of Health being a time factor. The Director stated a plan of the proposed changes by the bidder would need to be submitted to the State of Rhode Island. Alice Lavigne stated that when the Department of Health was reviewing concessions for the Burrillville Arts Festival, it was a long involved process.

**Kurt Schatz opened the discussion to the two Food Concession Bidders for any comments:**

**John Bateman stated regarding the Department of Health issues, if it took longer than expected he would make alternative arrangements. He felt there was more opportunity with keeping the concessions open later in the evening. He reviewed the new equipment that would be needed and stated that if the proposed changes were not feasible this year, they could take place next year. As the Beach Manager, the Director stated there is no problem with current vendor's offerings. John Bateman stated he was not saying there was a problem but that he wanted to make improvements. Alice Lavigne questioned if he had any experience in the food business. He stated he did not but his wife does. John Bateman stated he would be the person to take the certification classes. He would be hiring someone to man the Arcade while he gave more attention to the concessions.**

**Juliette Lopez stated she has been at the facility for years through the good and bad times. She investigated the offering of scoop ice cream but the Department of Health prefers packaged goods to be offered both at the Spring Lake Beach Ice Cream building and her ice cream trucks. Juliette Lopez stated that she offers quick food to be sold at a beach. This is what the families attending the beach are looking for because they do not want the wait incurred with offering other types of food. She has tried staying open later and other menu**

items but they did not work. The residents in the beach area have stated they do not want a night life at the beach. She also reported that usually by 5:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. the concessions close per the Beach Manager's approval because the beach is empty but the ice cream building would stay open if necessary. There has never been a complaint given regarding her hours of business. Whenever any plans were proposed, the current building plans would have to be adhered to. This is only a twelve week business which does not allow for major renovations. She could see if the public did not like what she was serving or some other type of problem, but she feels she has done a good job. She also gives job opportunities to the town residents.

Kurt Schatz requested a motion regarding who the commission would like to recommend to the Town Council out of the two bids received. Kurt stated that Juliette Lopez will recuse herself from the vote as a Recreation Commission member. He also cautioned the commission to put aside any friendships with Juliette Lopez or John. Many know Judy since she has been a member of the Recreation Commission for numerous years and many of you know John. Only the facts of each bid should be considered. David Marcotte stated that he has a problem with not having the schematics to review for any of the proposed changes. It makes it difficult to consider the changes.

David Marcotte made a motion to approve the recommendation to award the Concession bid to Juliette Lopez due to her eleven years

**concession experience and the question of feasibility of the proposed written plans by the second bidder. Seconded by Al Gerew. Motion passed 4-0.**

**One bid was received for the Arcade at Spring Lake Beach Facility. John Bateman did increase his bid amount from \$4,000 to \$5,300.**

**Alice Lavigne made a motion to approve the recommendation to award the Arcade bid to John Bateman. Seconded by David Marcotte. Motion passed 4-0.**

**Old Business: The Director reported:**

**Spring Lake Campground**

**See Scout Recognition agenda item.**

**Santa Calling**

**Approximately 120 calls were made. Recreation Commission Al Musso assisted with some of the calls.**

**Scout Recognition**

**A memo was submitted to the Town Council in recognition of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts for their support of the Parks and Recreation Department. The Director attended the Eagle Scouts awards ceremony yesterday. Wally Lees was in attendance at the Scout award ceremony and stated he would like to recognize the scouts at a future town council meeting. Town Council Liaison Nancy Binns will bring the item to the Town Council's attention.**

### **DEM Grant Application**

**A memo for the January 11, 2006 Town Council Meeting was submitted to request support of a small grant application for the resurfacing of the Branch River Park track. The funds are available currently without a tax burden on the tax payer due to excess funds remaining from the Hauser Field project, which can be utilized as matching funds for this project. The grant applications are due by January 20, 2006. The quote received for the project was \$49,500 with a contingency added for a total request of \$52,000. A review of any monies spent in the past for track repairs was given per the Town Manager's request.**

### **Budgets 2006/2007**

**Minor changes requested by the Recreation Commission to the proposed operating budget requests were made. The changes being primarily for increased utility costs. The Director received no more**

information from any of the leagues regarding any increase requests. Responses from Figure Skating, Junior Hockey, and Youth Basketball were received but not from Little League/Girls Softball. A deadline for requested information from the leagues was the end of December but the Budget Board review isn't until February 1, 2006 at 8:30 p.m. A reminder will be sent to the leagues including a statement that their funding may be jeopardized if no response is received.

Burrillville Extended Care is listed to be reviewed by the Budget Board but the Director stated that facility is similar to Spring Lake Beach where it is self supporting and no request for funds are being made.

A new monthly Recreation Program calendar was shared with the commission members.

**New Business:**

**Spring Lake Beach Bids**

Reported earlier in minutes.

**Safe Sitter**

The Safe Sitter program will be held February 23, 2006 at the Burrillville Middle School. The program has been held twice a year for the past five years and has reached capacity of 35 children each

**time. Hasbro Children's Hospital is still continuing the program at this time. The cost per student is \$40.**

**Meeting Adjourned: Motion made by Juliette Lopez. Seconded by Al Gerew. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Motion Passed 5-0.**

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 13, 2006 6:30p.m., Town Council Chambers.**

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