

Burrillville

Recreation Commission

RE: Minutes, January 14, 2008

Present: Cheri Hall, Director Dave Marcotte

Kurt Schatz, Chair Al Low

Al Gerew, Vice Chair Juliette Lopez-Recinos

Alice Lavigne, Secretary Susan Sgambato (Alternate Member)

Absent:

Excused: L. Kevin McDonald

Guests: None

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Kurt Schatz, Chair, at the Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, R.I.

Minutes of December 10, 2007 Regular Meeting were accepted. Motion to accept made by Al Gerew. Seconded by Dave Marcotte.

Motion passed 6-0.

Correspondence:

The Director reported notification of the annual block booking for summer concerts she will be attending in Pawtucket on January 23rd.

The Director reported receipt of the Little Leagues budget but not from any of the other leagues. A reminder phone call will be placed to each of the other leagues.

Kurt Schatz reviewed the letter received from the Town Clerk's Office regarding meeting notification and access for hearing impaired listening devices. The Director reported to the Town Clerk the non-receipt of any of the updates to the ordinance book.

Good & Welfare:

The Director reported forwarding a card to Town Council President Nancy Binns on behalf of the Recreation Commission and the Parks and Recreation Department in sympathy of the loss of her family member.

Kurt Schatz stated the Holiday Gathering held in December was very nice and hopes it will happen again next year.

Old Business:

Sub-committee report-Ordinance for Park Closing:

Kurt Schatz reported that the Town Council passed the ordinance amendment to Section 16.5-1 regarding Parks and Recreation Area Use Regulations to allow fishing at public parks between the hours of 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. Dave Marcotte reported that section 4 of same paragraph noted “nothing contained herein shall prohibit residents from passive recreation activities such as walking or walking pets during restricted hours”. Dave requested the addition of information regarding that some parks have posted no pets are allowed. The Director stated she will check on this request.

Conservation Commission

The Director met with Conservation Commission member Paul Roselli and Town Manager Michael Wood regarding the properties being looked at. Mike Wood questioned Paul Roselli how he concluded the savings by purchasing certain land. Paul Roselli has compiled another proposal explaining the savings and would like to set up another joint meeting to review the information next week with the Recreation Commission sub-committee.

The Director voiced concern to the Town Manager that Open Space Recreation grant funds that are remaining in the amount of \$500,000 that could assist with a possible multi-purpose gym addition to the

Recreation Center. These funds could be jeopardized if funding is allocated elsewhere versus for recreation development. These funds are left over from when White Mill Park, Branch River Park and Spring Lake were rehabilitated. If not allowed to go before the people for a bond referendum, then all the monies available are the remaining \$500,000. The concern is the Town Council might want to utilize these funds elsewhere versus for recreation use. The multi-purpose gym or teen center is already part of the five year plan. The State of Rhode Island will not be offering any new matching grant funds in the near future. It was questioned whether the funds have been allocated to the town as of yet. This will be reviewed at the next joint meeting with the Conservation Commission.

Doors Recreation Center

The new Recreation Center doors are being delivered this week.

Holiday Programming

Thank you was extended to all those who volunteered for the Santa Calling program.

Operating Budgets

The Parks and Recreation Department budget review appointment is January 31st at 8:15 p.m. The commission reviewed the proposed

budget request information including an increase to Spring Lake Beach professional/technical due to geese removal and miscellaneous for seven new picnic tables for the pavilion and overlook deck.

The Recreation department operating budget increases include heat oil, gasoline, and board stipend allotment due to the addition of the alternate member to the commission. Recreation Center phone expense was decreased due to the recreation department office relocating. All other line items are requested level funding.

The Director has a meeting tomorrow with Town Manager Michael Wood and Finance Director John Mainville relative to the fees for field use. The question is regarding the fee schedule proposal for field use. The actual fee schedule was not included in the ordinance changes but just refers to a fee schedule being utilized. The Finance Director requested projected fee revenues or historical information from the new field use fees but is not available due to this being a new procedure being proposed. An explanation will be given of how the new fee schedule was derived. Information regarding Little League field light costs and how often utilized will be acquired. Currently Hauser Field lights are at a cost of \$1,400 per month during the softball season. The fee schedule proposed would not cover these total costs.

The Director attended a workshop at the RI Recreation and Parks Association conference last Tuesday regarding the recreational

statute. It was reviewed that when injuries occur on recreational properties without the town issuing a permit and/or charging a fee, then the town is not liable because the town is not aware of the attendance. If the town issues a permit and/or charges a fee, then the statute is null and void and increases the town's liability. The Director will review the statute and possibly have the information reviewed by the town solicitor before the new fee schedule is implemented.

League Budgets

“Reviewed above under Correspondence”

Scope of Work for Trail and DEM Grant application

The commission was given the scope of work at the last commission meeting from the Town Planner Tom Kravitz for the proposed trail. The Director questioned why the DEM grant application was for \$90,000 versus the full \$100,000 maximum allowed for the proposed design and development of the former New York, New Haven and Hartford rail road into a multi-use pedestrian path. The scope of work will be reviewed at the next commission meeting.

Hauser Playground

The equipment has been delivered to the site and is currently in a

storage container at the expense of the playground equipment company. Once the weather breaks, Department of Public Works will have a dumpster delivered for them to perform the demolition of the old equipment and then the new equipment will be installed. Delivery was made to allow for the grant monies to be expended by 12/31/07.

New Business:

Recreation Center Roof-C.I.P.

Per a quote received, a C.I.P. request for \$25,000 was submitted for the Recreation Center roof repairs, install vents, demolition of the old chimney and remove old roof. Monies could be taken from the Recreation Center account to cover this expense.

A second C.I.P. request is for the resurfacing of the Branch River Park two tennis and two basketball courts. The Director contacted U.S. Tennis Association to inquire about team tennis programs and grant funds available for tennis court replacement. The cost estimate from Narragansett Improvement is \$120,000 for the replacement costs.

Dancin' with Hoops

A new program “Dancin’ with Hoops” is being introduced and flyers were distributed to the commission.

Spring Lake Beach Staff Manual

A copy of the new Spring Lake Beach Staff Manual was given to the commission members for their review. The Town Manager and Town Solicitor are currently reviewing the manual.

Field and Facility Review and Usage Analysis

The Director handed the commission members a copy of the Field and Facility Review and Usage Analysis report which has been submitted to the Town Manager.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made Dave Marcotte. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Motion Passed 6-0.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 11, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92

North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859