

Burrillville

Recreation Commission

RE: Minutes, June 9, 2008

Present: Cheri Hall, Director Dave Marcotte

Kurt Schatz, Chair Al Low

L. Kevin McDonald Juliette Lopez-Recinos

Alice Lavigne, Secretary

**Absent: Debra Stockwell (Alternate Member) and Michael Karmozyn,
Town Council Liaison**

Excused: Al Gerew, Vice Chair

**Guests: Albert Carlow Sr., Albert Carlow Jr., Mr. Lacroix, Lynn, Mr.
and Mrs. Lewin regarding the proposed Scope of Work for Trail.**

**President Janice Kaplan, Vice President Laura Perkins, Secretary Lisa
Tashereu, and Coordinator Lillian Jerome from the Burrillville Figure
Skating Association. Chris Lacey of the Levy Community Rink.**

**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.**

Motion to accept minutes of May 12, 2008 regular meeting by Alice Lavigne. David Marcotte made the correction of Michael Karmozyn, Town Council Liaison, listed as Absent to Present since he did attend, but arrived after attendance was taken. Motion to accept made by Dave Marcotte with correction. Seconded by L. Kevin McDonald. Motion passed 5-0.

Correspondence:

The Director reported correspondence received from Elaine Spiezio. Elaine has resigned as the instructor for the Senior Fitness Program. Megan Schofield, instructor of the department's Mom and Me program, is scheduled to take over as instructor of the Senior Fitness program with no interruption.

The Director reported a phone request to start-up a new lacrosse program. Superintendent Steve Welford also contacted the Director about a possible lacrosse program. A meeting has been set up with the Director, School Superintendent and a representative of lacrosse to discuss the possibility of a new lacrosse program.

Motion to move the "Scope of Work for Trail" to this timeslot of the agenda by Dave Marcotte. Seconded by Juliette Lopez-Recinos. Motion passed 5-0.

Old Business:

Scope of Work for Trail

The Director reported that the bids requests received today were for engineering, landscape and potential design services. The Director, a couple members of the Recreation Commission, Town Planner and Town Highway Director will meet to score the bid submissions. There still has to be two advertised public hearings where the engineer would make a proposal and to receive public input. Land abutters will be mailed certified notices. The request for bid proposals for the engineering, landscape and potential design services is only the first of many steps. There was a grant received to fund this first step. The remainder of the proposed project is contingent on further grant funds.

Albert Carlow of 77 Railroad Avenue, Harrisville discussed his concerns with the Recreation Commission as an abutting property owner to the proposed trail to connect Harrisville and Pascoag. He also shared a petition signed by his neighbors opposing the trail. Dave Marcotte questioned if there are still ATV's accessing the railroad track area. Mr. Carlow reported this has cut down considerably due to the lack of access with the development of the new Harrisville Village housing built.

The Director reported that it was noted as part of the Comprehensive Plan meeting that this proposal would only be considered if it does not put any residents in jeopardy. Mr. Carlow stated that he wanted

to bring his concerns now versus after a lot of time and monies have been utilized. Dave Marcotte reported that the scope of the plan is from the Town Planner's Department, consequently the concerns should be voiced by the neighbors to the planning department. A resident of Steere Farm Road voiced his concern over maintenance issues for this proposal.

Burrillville Figure Skating

President Janice Kaplan, Vice President Laura Perkins, Secretary Lisa Tashereu, and Coordinator Lillian Jerome from the Burrillville Figure Skating Association were in attendance. Ms. Kaplan explained the financial difficulties the Burrillville Figure Skating Association. The program tries to keep the costs affordable to the participants but the costs of rink ice time has escalated from \$130 per hour in 2005/2006, then two years ago to \$165 per hour and this year is \$190 per hour. In trying to keep it affordable to all the children of the town, a rate increase would have to be avoided. One-hundred participants are required to keep the program running.

The association has been adding fundraisers to help the program. The association is requesting funding to assist in bridging the cost deficit to avoid raising rates by another \$50 per participant. Currently the rate would be \$250 per participant. Every year that the rates increase, the program loses participants.

There were 65 residents and 35 non-resident participants last year. L. Kevin McDonald asked why the teachers are paid and not volunteers. Ms. Kaplan explained that as part of a national association, requirements have to be met to pass each badge. Consequently, a certified U.S.F.A. instructor has to be utilized. A couple of year's ago, junior coaches who are senior students began being utilized for the younger age groups at a third of the cost. There are 45 students on a Thursday evening with volunteers on the ice assisting the instructors.

Dave Marcotte questioned when the Burrillville Figure Skating Association began participating on a national level but is a non-competing club. To keep competitive with other clubs, the Burrillville Figure Skating became part of the U.S.F.A. This year the association ended at a slight negative, but with the new ice time fees, the deficit would be even more.

The Director recommended that \$2,000 could be reinstated this year and another \$2,000 next year from Recreation Programs budget to assist with Burrillville Figure Skating Association. Juliette Lopez-Recinos stated the School Committee should be contacted regarding the ice time increases to make them aware of the financial problems facing the Burrillville rink programs.

Chris Lacey of the Levy Community rink reviewed the rink use time fee structure with the commission, Juliette Lopez-Recinos stated that non-residents should be paying more than the residents. Mr. Lacey explained that the non-resident ice fee is the same because it

is being rented at non-prime times.

Motion to reinstate \$2,000 for this year and continue for next year by Dave Marcotte. Seconded by L. Kevin McDonald. Discussion by Dave Marcotte stated that when the funding was decreased to the Burrillville Figure Skating Association a couple of years ago, they were asked to do more fundraiser and raise fees if necessary. They have done that and have now justified why they need the funding reinstated. Motion passed 5-0.

The members present from the Burrillville Figure Skating Association thanked the commission for their support. Chris Lacey stated if there is anything more he can do to assist in recreational rink use, contact him.

Good & Welfare:

The Director reported receipt of a grant of \$1,500 from Keep America Beautiful for Cigarette Litter Prevention program at the Spring Lake Beach facility. A scan of the beach front over a 2-week period will be done and then, after utilizing the 1,000 disposable ashtrays, another scan will be done to review the outcome.

The \$1,500 grant will be utilized for cigarette urns to be placed at the Spring Lake Beach facility. Alice Lavigne reported that no smoking is now enforced at the state beaches.

Juliette Lopez-Recinos wanted to mention that today at Spring Lake Beach, a paddleboat renters went to a private dock and were jumping off. The lifeguard had to go after them to make them aware this was not allowed.

Old Business:

Sub-committee report-Ordinance

Nothing new to report.

Conservation Commission

At the Town Council meeting held on May 14th, the Conservation Commission was turned down due to lack of funds to allow for a 3 million open-space/recreational bond. But then at the next Town Council meeting, a 4 million bond was allowed for a Senior Center. Conservation Commission member Richard Dionne questioned why a 4million dollar was approved when it was just stated that a 3 million dollar bond could not be afforded.

Doors Recreation Center

The Director reported still waiting for the quotes for the handicap accessible hardware for the new doors and to fix the gap in the new

doors.

League Budgets/C.I.P.

“See Above” under Burrillville Figure Skating.

After the new operating budget is adopted, the commission can discuss the league budgets.

Relay for Life

The annual Relay for Life event will take place on June 20th and June 21st.

Spring Lake Beach

The Spring Lake Beach facility was open today and again tomorrow due to the heat. There is a great staff this year with everyone working together. The new maintenance staff has been addressing a lot of needed repairs and maintenance.

Tennis Courts

The Director will be contacting Richard Bernardo of the Department of Public Works for assistance with minor repairs to the tennis courts. There is a possibility of having some coal patch donated for

the repairs. Dave Marcotte reported 2-3 inch gaps in the asphalt and that is might be necessary to close the courts.

Hauser-Men's Softball

Mike Nault requested use of the big field at Hauser and utilize the Callahan and High School fields also on Father's Day. The Director accepted that as long as the smaller fields at Hauser were not utilized.

It will very costly to extend the netting on the poles per Ted Garrille of the Pascoag Utility District. Branch River Lighting is being fixed. The Recreation Office and the Recreation Center lighting will be reviewed by R.I.S.E. Complaints regarding Men's Softball have quieted down. Dave Marcotte is still working with D'Ambra Construction on possibly paving the Hauser parking area.

Spring Lake Equipment

Playground has been ordered and purchased by Burrillville Extended Care.

Youth Football League

A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10th, with Superintendent Steve Welford regarding the Youth Football League utilizing field space. A meeting was held with the School Facilities Manager Bob Richards who agreed to extend the practice for the Youth Football at

Eccleston Field. Dave Marcotte stated that residents have voiced concerns to him regarding the new Youth Football League. The Director stated background checks and NYSCA training will be completed. The reason for the new youth league in Burrillville is to expand the Rhode League. As of now, there are (87) participants with enough for (3) football and (3) cheer teams.

New Business:

Safesitter Course-June 24th-Middle School

Concert Schedules were handed out to the commission members.

Beach Bus will begin each Tuesday, July 8th from the A.T. Levy School at 8:30 a.m. to the state beaches to return by 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion made Al Low. Seconded by Al Gerew.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Motion Passed 5-0.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 14, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., Burrillville Parks and Recreation Offices, 92 North Main Street, Pascoag, RI 02859

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