

# *Park and Recreation Commission*

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## **Minutes**

(meeting taped)

Monthly meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 2007 in the New City Hall.

Meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m.

By roll call, members present: John Walsh, James Benanto, Andrew Cota and David Mikos. Al Felice, Nick Serednitsky and William Clynch were excused.

Parks and Recreation Director Dennis O'Connell and Athletic Director Joseph Orazetti were present.

### **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

Without objection, the agenda was accepted, as written.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by James Benanto and second by Andrew Cota. Move to accept the minutes of October 9, 2007, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

No one came forward.

### **CORRESPONDENCES:**

Nothing was presented.

### **DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

**Parks & Recreation Director's Report:** Mr. O'Connell reported the YMCA has decided not to continue the supervision of the Skate Park. He will be meeting with Shelton to discuss future plans for the park. It was noted that the usage has been disappointing and the two cities will have to decide if they want to continue to operate a supervised park.

Registration for Youth Basketball – boys & girls- has been low with only 145 registrations to date. Five years ago the registration was in the 300 range. The weekend Youth Travel teams is more active with 22 teams already scheduled.

Shelton closed their pool for approximately two weeks for maintenance. The Derby Veteran's Community Center has been made available to Shelton members at a reduced rate for daily swim and Shelton will be reimbursing Derby for the expense.

Members discussed whether there is a need to bring bleachers from Shelton for the Thanksgiving Day game. Mr. Orazetti will speak with Shelton to see if they see a need to have them but it was noted that Shelton has offered them. It is cumbersome to bring them over and the directors will determine the necessity.

Mr. Mikos reported that the Over 35 Men's Basketball League has shown renewed interest and is being scheduled and played.

**High School Athletic Director's Report:** Mr. Orazetti reported that a tournament game was played at Witek Park and it went very well. The field at Ryan is not regulation size for tournament play. The boys team have made it to the quarter finals.

The basketball programs will be starting and the school has asked for time in the Derby Veteran's Community Center. Freshman team will be using Irving School gymnasium from 6-8 pm, noting that this may impact the recreational schedule for using the facility and he will work with Mr. O'Connell to coordinate the times.

Chairman Walsh suggested that the new Board of Education members be invited to the January meeting so that a dialog can be started on the needs for both the recreational and athletic programs. Members discussed the excessive use of the football field at Ryan and the need to come up with solutions.

It was also noted that the Board of Education website is being reintroduced and Chairman Walsh encouraged them to start including athletic information. He would gladly place links on the Derby Recreation page to this information.

**NEW or OTHER BUSINESS:**

Nothing was presented.

Motion was made by David Mikos and second by James Benanto. Move to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully prepared,  
Karen Kemmesies, secretary

*These minutes are subject to the Commission's approval at their next scheduled meeting.*