

# *Park and Recreation Commission*

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## **Minutes**

(meeting taped)

Monthly meeting: Monday, August 9, 2010 in the City Hall.

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

By roll call, members present: John Walsh, Red Clynych, Beverly Moran and Nick Serednitsky. James Benanto, Andrew Cota and David Mikos were excused.

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

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

Without objection, the agenda was accepted as presented.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion made Red Clynych and second by Nick Serednitsky. Move to accept the minutes of June 14, 2010, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

No one was present.

### **CORRESPONDENCES:**

Nothing was presented.

### **DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

**Parks & Recreation Director's Report:** Mr. O'Connell distributed the High School fall schedule. The Middle School schedule is still being prepared. The registration for Middle School soccer has sufficient numbers and if the program goes forward, they will practice at Bradley School. Mr. O'Connell spoke with the youth soccer director to see if there would be a conflict with the use of Bradley School and at this point there does not seem to be a problem.

High School Boy's soccer (Sep 17) and High School Girl's soccer (Sep 14) are requesting to play their first home games at the Ryan Field Complex as well as their final home games in October (girls – Oct 27 and boy's – Oct 25). The Athletic Director would like to collect gate receipts and concession stand revenues for fundraising purposes. Mr. O'Connell indicated that the High School football teams first home games would be after these games and as such the field would have to be marked twice. He noted that the cost of marking the fields for all of the various sporting events comes from the Parks and Recreation budget and line item can quickly swell. It was noted that last year only the senior night soccer games were played on Ryan.

Pop Warner football's first games (all 5 divisions) will be on Aug 28<sup>th</sup>. They will play their first three games at home.

Motion made by Red Clynych and second by Beverly Moran. Move to allow the High School Soccer programs to play their senior night games at the Ryan Complex – Girls on October 27, 2010 and Boys on October 25, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

The field conditions vary. The football field is good, as Public Works allowed the cutting to be a bit higher thus allowing the grass to rejuvenate and survive during the hot summer. Witek Park is good, as this is maintained as per the requirements dictated during the approval process for construction. Bradley School is in need of attention as are the other fields in the city. Mr. O'Connell ideally would like to see all the fields have equal attention, something difficult to do because of budget constraints.

In reviewing the end of year 2009-2010 budget, all line items were within the allotments. Wages has a surplus due to the way in which the pay periods fell at the start and finish of the budget.

The summer program ended this week with a trip to Quassy Amusement Park. They took three trips total. Transportation was the greatest expense for the program. The program went well. The lunch program at the Derby Veteran's Community Center was well received. Mr. O'Connell is speaking with John Saccu to explore expanding the program next year.

Zumba is going very well at the Derby Veteran's Community Center. Three sessions are held with approximately 80 participants per week.

The Little League field house roof has been done. The bleachers have been delivered and will be installed. They are not elevated and it is unlikely that they can be used in other areas. The old bleachers will be dismantled and removed.

Mr. O'Connell noted the receivables last year totaled \$67,000 and this would be the approximate cost of visitor bleachers at Ryan football field. Maybe the Board of Apportionment and Taxation could be approached to see if they would be agreeable to allocating the receivables for the purchase. The programs held at the center have produced the windfall and it was suggested that they could possibly be applied to the maintenance needs of the building.

Other capital projects include:

- 1.) The football light structures – the bulbs were recently replaced and this did improve conditions but the poles and mechanics have not been addressed.
- 2.) There are still two more sections of bleachers on the home side that need to be replaced.
- 3.) With the construction of the Middle School, the path from the school area down to the fields was disrupted. Players have to go around onto Chatfield Street to go to the fields.
- 4.) Many of the windows at the Derby Veteran's Community Center are in need of replacement as the framing areas are deteriorating.

Mr. O'Connell noted that the emergency lighting for the new bleacher sections is scheduled to be installed.

**High School Athletic Director's Report:** Mr. Orazetti was excused.

**NEW or OTHER BUSINESS:**

Nothing was presented.

Motion made by Beverly Moran and second by Red Clynych. Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully prepared,

Karen Kemmesies, secretary

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