

Park and Recreation Commission

Minutes

(meeting taped)

Monthly meeting: Monday, September 13, 2010 in the City Hall.

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

By roll call, members present: John Walsh, Beverly Moran, David Mikos, Andrew Cota and Nick Serednitsky. James Benanto and Red Clynch 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 Beverly Moran and second by Nick Serednitsky. Move to accept the minutes of August 9, 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 stated that there was vandalism at Witek Park. Two goals were destroyed. He spoke with the Athletic Director to explore possible funding to replace the damaged goals but the expenditure would be too burdensome to either the athletic or the recreational budgets at this time. One field at Bradley and one field at Witek Park are being maintained at this time. It would have been advantageous to have the goals that were damaged as this would have allowed for additional play at Witek Park. As of yet, there is no word on whether the Middle School soccer program is going to go forward.

Pop Warner has already played three of their home games for the season. A high school aged Baseball team is playing this fall. There is no fall softball league due to lack of interest. Mr. O'Connell noted that other towns are also experiencing this decline in interest. The Youth Basketball will be registering soon. The intent is to include clinics in the program.

Regarding maintenance issues, a light pole at Ryan Field Complex malfunctioned. It had to be taken down with the crane in order to perform the repairs. At the Derby Veteran's Community Center, the fall shutdown was done. When the pool pumps were restarted, the safety drain system caused water to be blocked from going to the pumps resulting in damage. Costs for the repairs are being determined. Mr. O'Connell felt it would be useful to speak with the City Engineer to obtain his comments on maintenance matters regarding the Center. The pool is very well used; there is free swim, water aerobics, water therapy as well as other functions.

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

NEW or OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Mikos noted that the over 35 basketball league is well attended. He is seeing younger men wanting to play but the league is reluctant to include them. He would like to explore the schools to see if gymnasium space could be used to expand the program. With the addition of the Middle School gymnasium, he was hopeful that more time would be available. Members felt that a plan should be developed and presented to the Board of Education. As the Parks Department has always worked well in coordinating the fields for the athletic and recreational uses, they were hopeful that the gymnasium use could also be shared effectively.

Motion made by Beverly Moran and second by David Mikos. Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully prepared,

Karen Kemmesies, secretary

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