

Park and Recreation Commission

Minutes

(meeting taped)

Monthly meeting: Monday, March 14, 2011 in the City Hall.

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

By roll call, members present: Andrew Cota, Beverly Moran, Nick Serednitsky, David Mikos, Red Clynch and Ronald Sill. James Benanto was excused.

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

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Motion made by Ron Sill and second by Beverly Moran. Move to accept the agenda, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Beverly Moran and second by Nick Serednitsky. Move to accept the minutes of February 7, 2011, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PORTION:

No one from the public was present.

CORRESPONDENCES:

No correspondence was presented.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Parks & Recreation Director's Report: Mr. O'Connell reported that the basketball season is completed and proved very successful. The teams will be given an end of season pizza party. Playing with the Ansonia league went well.

Little League held their registrations and had 118 participants sign up. This number is low and members questioned whether it was due to the registration fee. Mr. O'Connell will explore whether the fees are in line with the other adjoining towns. It was suggested that a questionnaire be distributed to try and ascertain why the interest has declined. Members noted that the teams are sponsored by local businesses and organizations that contribute to the costs of the program. The program receives a stipend from the City annually. They questioned whether the fees needed to be as high. It was suggested to invite the director to the next meeting.

Mr. O'Connell noted that soccer has held their registration and their numbers are also down. The Babe Ruth registration only had 3 sign up but Mr. O'Connell will continue to recruit possible players. He noted that he did distribute the flyers at the Middle School and High School. Pop Warner has a new president – Greg Jenna as Ron Slowik is stepping down. Mr. Clynch noted that years ago there were programs during the summer months when the children are out of school and he wondered if this should be explored.

Mr. O'Connell indicated that he has asked the City Engineer to look at the ceiling crack in the shower area of the Field house. He is awaiting a report.

The lights at Ryan Field have yet to receive funding for their replacement or repair. Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Orazetti will be watchful during the spring season and continue to explore funding sources. They are also pursuing having the trees inspected behind the bleachers.

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

NEW or OTHER BUSINESS:

Budget: Chairman Cota went before the Board of Alderman requesting a salary increase for the Parks and Recreation Director and they voted favorably for the increase. He presented the proposed 2011-2012 Parks and Recreation budget noting that with exception of the increase in salary, he has tried to keep to the zero increase as requested by the City.

| | | 2011-2012 Budget | 2010-2011 Actual | Changes | % |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------|
| Dept 5100 - Parks & Recreation | | | | | |
| 110-0110-0000 | Parks Director Wages | 20,600 | 15,600 | 5,000 | 32% |
| 110-0111-0000 | Supervisors | 64,325 | 64,325 | 0 | 0% |
| 110-0112-0000 | Attendants | 17,940 | 17,940 | 0 | 0% |
| 110-0114-0000 | Lifeguards | 12,977 | 12,977 | 0 | 0% |
| 110-0115-0000 | Bldg Maintenance wages | 15,337 | 15,337 | 0 | 0% |
| | Subtotal | 131,179 | 126,179 | 5,000 | 4% |
| 140-0141-0000 | Playground Wages | 7,320 | 7,320 | 0 | 0% |
| 230-0231-0000 | Yankeegas | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 230-0232-0000 | Water Co. | 5,500 | 5,800 | -300 | -5% |
| 230-0233-0000 | Light Pole Ryan Field | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0 | 0% |
| | Subtotal | 19,320 | 19,620 | -300 | -2% |
| 270-0278-0000 | Witek Park Maintenance | 15,000 | 15,000 | 0 | 0% |
| | Subtotal | 15,000 | 15,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 330-0330-0000 | Equip. Maintenance | 25,000 | 25,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 330-0331-0000 | Bldg & Field Supplies | 21,000 | 21,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 330-0332-0000 | Office Supplies | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 330-0333-0000 | Recreation Equip. | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 330-0348-0000 | Technology (computer) | 250 | 250 | 0 | 0% |
| | Subtotal | 54,250 | 54,250 | 0 | 0% |
| 390-0001-0000 | Derby Colt Baseball | 3,300 | 3,300 | 0 | 0% |
| 390-0007-0000 | Girls Softball | 100 | 100 | 0 | 0% |
| 390-0009-0000 | Soccer | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 390-0010-0000 | Little League | 8,000 | 8,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 390-0011-0000 | Pop Warner | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 390-0012-0000 | Wrestling | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 390-0013-0000 | Playground Supplies | 1,600 | 1,300 | 300 | 23% |
| 390-0016-0000 | Girls Softball 14-18 | 1,260 | 1,260 | 0 | 0% |
| | Subtotal | 30,260 | 29,960 | 300 | 1% |
| 480-0484-0000 | Youth Basketball | 9,000 | 9,000 | 0 | 0% |
| 480-0488-0000 | Skate Park | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0 | 0% |
| | Subtotal | 11,500 | 11,500 | 0 | 0% |
| | Dept. Total | 261,509 | 256,509 | 5,000 | 2% |
| <hr/> | | | | | |
| | Ryan Field Capital | 10,000 | 10,000 | | |
| | Grand Total | 271,509 | 266,509 | | 2% |

Members questioned whether there was sufficient funding for the Witek line item. Mr. O'Connell was comfortable with the figure but would speak with Alderman Hughes to verify that there were no additional expenses expected.

Members discussed possible capital projects. 1.) Mr. O'Connell indicated that he is exploring the costs for visitor's bleachers. With many rival team home games this year, it would be beneficial to have the additional seating. He has contacted various vendors and possibly could find units at an estimated \$45,000. 2.) The field groomer has been requested before but put off. The unit is old and has been rebuilt once already. It is needed piece of equipment to keep the fields maintained. 3.) Members noted that the basketball courts at Coon Hollow are very well used. The surface has cracks and is slippery when wet. Mr. O'Connell will look into cost estimates for resurfacing. As it is well used, members questioned whether one of the tennis courts could be changed into an additional basketball court. Mr. O'Connell will examine. Other projects still open are 4.) the lighting at Ryan Field, 5.) the remaining home bleachers at Ryan Field and 6.) the tennis courts at Bradley School. Chairman Cota and Mr. O'Connell will be working on the complete capital list and will present it to the full Commission, once completed.

Motion made by Ron Sill and second by Red Clynch. Move to accept the Parks and Recreation Budget for 2011 -2012 in the amount of \$271,509 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Beverly Moran and second by David Mikos. Move to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully prepared,

Karen Kemmesies, secretary

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