

# RECREATION & PARK COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009  
Avon Town Hall, Building #1

- I. Call to Order - 6:00 p.m. – By Chairman, Peter Ponziani
  - A. Attendance
    1. Members & Staff Present  
  
Glenn Marston, Director, Sharon VanDeusen, Admin. Coordinator, Donald Droppo, Michael Trick, Peggy Roell  
Kathy Thompson, David Jadovich
    2. Members & Staff Absent  
Doug Evans, Vice-Chairman
- II. Minutes – There were no minutes to review
- III. Public Comment – None
- IV. Director's Report
  - A. Summer  
Director reported to the committee that summer registrations were better than expected and things are starting to look up. There were a lot of registrations for summer day camps and basketball camps, but the majority of the Skyhawks sports camps had to be cancelled due to insufficient enrollment. Mr. Marston reported that we had an attendance of 10,593 at the Sycamore Hills pool this summer, which is down from last summer, but we also had more rain than usual this summer. He reported that swim memberships were down by 30 from last summer.
  - B. Fall  
The registration for fall programs began on September 15 and many new programs were being offered. The department offered a girls' 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball league for the first time this fall and we were not sure it was going to run and we ended up registering 50 girls.
  - C. Sharon VanDeusen gave a brief update from the town-wide Avon Day event. She reported that \$17,390.00 was deposited into the Avon Day Account of which \$4,264.60 was given to the Town's Special Needs fund. Attendance was reported to be around 15,000 people for the day.
- V. Correspondence - None
- VI. Committee Communication – None
- VII. Old Business
  - A. Fisher Meadows Field Project
    1. RFP for Soil Testing  
Glenn reported that the soil testing is done and the results were good.
    2. RFP for Architectural Services  
Glenn reported that 19 RFP's were received and were reviewed by Peter Ponziani and Peggy Roell. Once the interviews were done, the interview panel concurred that Richter and Cegan be chosen for the project.
    3. Plan To Date  
Glenn reviewed the plans and schematics for the Fisher Meadows Field Project with the committee. It was decided to build a bigger parking lot near the new fields that would consist of 190 parking spaces instead of the original 60. In the area that Glenn wanted to make one big field, it could not be done due to poor drainage so it was decided to build two smaller fields with drainage in the middle of the fields. Glenn said this would also give us the opportunity to swap the field out for renovation purposes and this would also give us back softball field #2 which has been used for soccer for the last 12-15 years. Power will also be run to the new area and a rain garden will be made that will drain into the pond and this will help with the excess water.  
  
Don Droppo suggested putting power in so that lights could be installed in the future. Glenn told Don that the schematics that we have are what we are getting prices on. Glenn thought that asking for lights in this project at

this time may cause delays in the project and it may draw attention and opposition from people in the area. David Jadovich agrees with Don that the lights should be included in the project now. Glenn suggested that the lights be done as a separate item instead of as an item in this project. Peggy Roell suggested talking to the soccer club about looking into grants to put lighting at Fisher and then the Town might be willing to fund the other half of the lighting. The committee concurred to do the lighting as a separate item. Glenn will contact Pat Hennig about the lighting and get an update and estimate to the committee at the next meeting.

- B. Review of Fees – Further Discussion
1. \$ 5.00 per registrant fee for all leagues.

Glenn reported to the committee that the \$5.00 per registrant fee was implemented on April 1, 2009. So far, all of the groups have been receptive to paying the fee.

2. Senior Center – Building Use & Supervisor Fees

Glenn told the committee that the Building Use & Supervisor Fees for the Senior Center were implemented on July 1, 2009 and all groups have been okay with paying the fees. Each group is charged a user fee of \$50 per date (or \$30 for 4 or more dates) and they pay \$20 per hour or any part of an hour for the facility attendant. The user fee is due with the application and the group is invoiced for the facility attendant after their event. Some groups are trying to work around having to pay the facility attendant fee, but the majority of the groups have been fine.

## VIII. New Business

- A. Capital Improvement Program

Glenn reviewed the Capital Improvement Program Project Proposal with the committee. After some discussion, it was decided that the projects would be submitted in the following order:

1. Sycamore - Pool Painting & Wall Repairs
2. Sperry Park - Parking Lot
3. Fisher Meadows - Field Development
4. Fisher Meadows - Spring Lake/Willow Pond Connect
5. Countryside Park - Building Renovations
6. Thompson Road – Facility Development
7. Senior Center/Community Room – Building Renovations
8. Thompson Brook School – Tennis Court Lighting

Glenn will make his presentation for the Capital Improvement Program Project to the Council on November 16 at 7:00 pm and would like to have members from the committee attend that meeting if possible.

- B. Countryside Park Update

Glenn told the Committee that the Unplugged Learning Project has adopted Countryside Park to do some renovations to the building and grounds. KBE Construction Company will do an evaluation and cost estimates on work and then they will do the work. Some of the repairs and renovations include the roof, the downspouts, fascia boards, light fixtures and the fireplace. Kaestle Boos has done some preliminary work pro bono.

- C. Set New Meeting Dates

The next Recreation and Park Committee meeting was set for October 28, 2009 at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room in building #1 at the Avon Town Hall. Other meeting dates will be November 18, January 27, February 24 and March 24. Sharon VanDeusen will send out an email to all committee members with the dates.

## IX. Adjournment

- A. Peggy Roell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. Peter Ponziani seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by

*Sharon VanDeusen*

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