

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting

July 21, 2009

7:00 p.m. at Hooksett Library

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. Present were Board Chairman Mike Horne, Corri Wilson, Stuart Werksman, Marty Lennon, and Dale Hemeon. Absent: Joanne Burwell and Dave Elliott.
2. M. Horne welcomed new board members Stuart Werksman and Marty Lennon. He said Dave Elliott emailed earlier in the evening saying he could not make the meeting.
3. MINUTES: The proposed minutes of the June 16, 2009 meeting were reviewed. C. Wilson motioned to approve as written, Seconded by S. Werksman. Vote unanimously in favor.
4. PUBLIC INPUT: No one from the public was present or had sent correspondence prior to the meeting to be considered.
5. The board discussed board procedures and agreed that alternate board members would vote if present just like other board members. M. Horne handed out to board members present a 3-ring binder for them to use as P&R Board members (minutes, impact fee background and letters, efforts for new parks/fields, 5-Year Plan, Recreation in 2004 Master Plan, etc.). C. Wilson volunteered to update the contact sheet and email the update. M. Horne explained that Marty was appointed over Jim Molony based on vote at Town Council. It was suggested to invite Jim to stay involved as a citizen and be in the wings to join the Board in the future when a vacancy came open.
6. BOARD ELECTIONS: M. Horne stated he does not want to continue as chair or recorder and advised the board he wanted elections to take place at the August meeting.
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Recreation Dept. report: D. Hemeon gave the board an overview of recreation department:
 - 1). "Fun in the Sun": The staff did an excellent job the week prior by noticing a strange man in the area and taking actions to ensure all children were kept safe. Later in the day that man caused an incident in a local neighborhood.
 - 2). Dog Park: Dale has request for prices out for fencing. He is still undecided on the exact dimensions (200' x 200', 200' x 100' with 200' x 30' for small dogs, etc.) He has seen similar facilities in Derry and Concord. A stone dust surface is probably best for maintenance. He is continuing efforts to talk with abutters. C. Wilson asked about publicity of this new park. Board members volunteered to assist Dale as needed.
 - 3). Toilets at Donati Park: David Boutin requested the public restrooms in the club house at Donatic Park be open 7 days a week during daylight hours for people using the park and playground would have access. M. Horne suggested installing automatic locks vs. having to have Recreation Dept. staff unlock and lock doors. He will get information on lock systems to Dale,
 - 4). Recreation Fields: Dale attended a recent meeting of the Conservation Commission and asked for the Commission to assist Parks and Rec. to expand the field area at Peter Brook.

Approved 8-18-09

P&R board members expressed support of expanding the fields and recreation space at Peter Brook location. Some discussion ensued about fields at Donati Park by the clubhouse and below the Town Hall. There's a need to increase the length of the field for lacrosse, perhaps extending closer to the railroad. Or turning and eliminating the Babe Ruth size field. If that happened, the field at Cawley School would be the only non-Little League size field. Perhaps permits or agreements with the schools could be made.

5). Signs for Rail Trail: Dale said he has the signs for three locations on the trails and will get them installed.

6). Appearance of Parks: The Hooksett Garden Club (Marty Lennon, Mrs. Sorel, etc.) is working to beautify some of Hooksett's parks. The park at Main St. and Rte 3A is one which is in progress.

B. C. Wilson reported she continues researching and compiling information on what other towns have for recreation activities and their staff and volunteers used to run their programs. She expects to have a report for the August meeting.

C. Town Hall Gym: D. Hemeon talked a little about efforts for recreation activities in the gym. Desires for groups in the community to use for various recreation activities.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. M. Horne projected aerial views (from Google maps) of the recreation facilities in Hooksett. Though the views are not current, it was still helpful to those not entirely familiar with the various parks and fields. He will continue this effort at the August meeting.

B. M. Horne asked Dale about a proposed Town Common in land being developed by Manchester Sand and Gravel that is in the minutes of the Planning Board. Dale will bring a plan of the proposal to the next meeting.

9. There being no further meeting, M. Lennon motioned to end the meeting, seconded by C. Wilson. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Minutes by Mike Horne
