

Regular Meeting
Litchfield Park & Recreation Commission
April 25, 2011
7:00 PM

Present: Lisa Bauer, Dan Calhoun, Ed Fabbri, Diane Fredsall, Brent Hawkins, Ann McCarthy

Absent: Helen Bunnell, Jim Keller

Call to Order: Ann McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Dan Calhan to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2011 meeting, seconded by Ed Fabbri. Vote: All ayes except Lisa Bauer (abstained) who was not in attendance at the meeting.

Public Comments: No public present.

Commissioner Requests: None

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

Community Field Plan: From Jack Healy he called the contractor for information on a restart date but has not heard anything yet, he will dismiss him and not pay the balance due if he does not hear from him soon. Questions to be submitted to Jack: puddles in the track, water in center field, asphalt falling apart and if filter fabric was placed in drain it does not appear to be holding.

Tennis Court: the practice board has been installed

Easter Egg Hunt: It was a great day and the participation was wonderful.

Outdoor Movies: White Memorial is ok for the location. Diane is waiting to hear from Helen about the Bantam Cinema and their participation. Show night will be Saturday, July 2nd with a rain date of Sunday, July 3rd.

Bantam Lake Boat Launch: Our constables are trying to police it as best he can and we are waiting for a response from the Morris Beach Committee.

Junior Field Hockey Equipment: Because of new insurance regulations this program may not begin as planned.

Summer Concerts: The rain location will be in the Methodist Church.

Directors Report:

Read, a copy distributed to all, and a copy will be attached to the minutes.

Motion to adjourn:

Motion to adjourn: Dan Calhoun. Seconded: Diane Fredsall.
Vote: All Ayes

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Transcribed by L. Bauer

Brent Hawkins, Park & Recreation Coordinator

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE May 23, 2011 AT 7:30 PM.

April Director's Report 2011

The changing seasons are changing a bit too slowly for the construction project at Community Field. Now that the snow has melted the rain keeps getting in the way of completion of the project. We hope to have that wrapped up and the grass seed in and growing very soon.

Repairs are going on at the Concession Stand with new windows in the service area and a new outdoor counter. The restrooms will be done within the next 4-5 weeks, until they are re-done the porta-jons will have to serve their purpose.

Plans are all set for the Easter Egg Hunt in Community Field on Good Friday at 10 a.m, complete with a candy guessing game. Winner keeps the candy and wins a free dental exam and cleaning from Dr. William Fabbri.

Two new programs have been planned, one beginning today (Monday) at Center School with a new handcrafting class with Monika Geerling. The other new program is an acting school followed by a performance of the play with the well-known and theatrical McKenna family putting this together. The plan is to have the final production at the Warner Theatre with practices for the 30 or so kids taking place at St. Anthony's basement.

The 2011 version of Rod Dixon's Kids marathon is off and running with about 55 kids in the program. Rod is to visit the kids on Monday, April 25th for a surprise appearance!

The Field Hockey Camp for this summer and the Women's Softball League are in mothballs currently. Our camp coach moved to Boston and will not be doing it this year and new insurance and liability rules are putting a financial burden on those people running camps as they are now required to present a certificate of liability to the town, rather than the town being their insurance umbrella. This is in many ways going to hamper the future of locally run camps through Park and Rec. This may affect whether we have any basketball camps at all this summer. I have supplied the camp directors with insurance information which could help them get the right insurance at a better rate. In the case of softball over half (almost 70%) of the women who played softball last year "retired" this year and we could not come up with enough individuals or teams to keep the league going.

White Memorial has okayed our requests to run races through their trails and fields, including the Haight to Run 5K on May 14th and all of the Summer Cross Country Series races beginning on the first Thursday evening in July and going through the middle of August.

The swim instructors have been hired for the Wisdom House lessons which will begin on June 27th and with luck and no more snow our summer camp will kick off on Monday, June 20th.

Respectfully Submitted by J. Brent Hawkins, April 20, 2011