

****Items to be placed on the RAB Agenda must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the preceding month****

MOULTONBOROUGH RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ADVISORY BOARD

Mission Statement

The mission of the Advisory Board to the Moultonborough Recreation Department is to provide the public a standard of excellence in programs and services in a cooperative spirit that encourages participation in recreation, sport and leisure activities, while carefully promoting and utilizing recreational resources and facilities available in the community.

Purpose

The principal function of the Advisory Board is to serve as a communication bridge between the Recreation Director, the Board of Selectmen and the Community and to promote programs and services to encourage support from our community through input and participation.

MINUTES

June 13, 2011

Present: Al Hume, Harry Blood, Celeste Burns, Carla Taylor, Hilary Bride.

Excused: Chris Shipp, Morgen Gillis

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Al called the Meeting to Order at 6:56 p.m.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES of May 9, 2011: Celeste made the motion to approve the minutes, Harry seconded the Motion. Approved.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Michael Branley, the recently hired "Fellow," will be invited via email by Celeste to come speak at our meeting on July 11th.
 - b. Softball Field Maintenance: Chris Shipp asked Celeste to include this item on the agenda as both have noticed the lack of raking and lines at softball games. Harry stated that Scott Kinmond's department does have a role in keeping it raked. Hilary explained that the town rakes it in the morning but, because it's a public park, it can't close it during the day to rake again and coaches need to maintain it with the roller in the shed. Coaches are given the information and code in their handbook.
 - c. Summer Schedule: It was decided unanimously to keep the July meeting and decide upon August at that meeting. Carla brought up the early fall pep rally and the possible need to meet based on when the rally will be scheduled.
 - d. Other new business: Al brought up the merger proposal study and the fact that it isn't being made open to the public. The Board decided to send an inquiry regarding the matter to the Board of Selectmen. Celeste will draft.
- IV. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Discussion re. Blue Ribbon Commission's findings about the need for a new facility: Al asked if a game had ever been canceled due to lack of space. Harry and Hilary both answered in the negative but said many practices and scrimmages have had to be rescheduled. Celeste

commented that the lack of space has made Moultonborough youth athletes less competitive because they have so little practice time. Carla added that the people in town need to be made aware that we need a building to run the programs we now have; not to add programming. Hilary pointed out that people also are not aware of how unsafe the MCS multi-purpose room is and its use is still maximized. Harry brought up ways to inform the public of the current scheduling and space issues, and to point out the differences between interscholastic athletics and recreation; whether it's by having informal get-togethers at private homes or presentations at the library or schools. The location of a new facility was also discussed. _____ believes that if a new building is put on school grounds then the recreation department would still get the leftovers for their programming. Hilary agreed and also added that scheduling different age levels needs to be included. You can't schedule younger grades late in the evening.

VI. RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE: In addition to handing out the Director's Report, Hilary highlighted the following: 1) Re. Trips: Cabbage Island Trip still has space and they are putting together a Boston Trip that includes Faneuil Hall, the Aquarium and ending with dinner at one of the good seafood restaurants there. 2) Re. swimming: The new raft is installed at Long Island. Swim lessons had to be limited this year because the rec. dept. is down to one WSI instructor from 3 last year. 3) Re. registrations: numbers have skyrocketed in camps especially Teen Adventure. There is some concern that camps will fill completely and Massachusetts students are getting out much later so when they come up for the Summer no slots may be available. Al suggested putting something in the Summer newsletter, for next year, alerting out of towners about the need to register early. 4) Community Resource Fair: kudos to Kaitlin for incredible job. People were surprised at how many resources are available in town. Hilary estimated that 150-175 people were in attendance and vendors/sponsors have already been in contact regarding next year. 6) 35 summer employees start Monday.

Al asked about having a Red Sox trip. Hilary explained that you have to enter a lottery to get tickets and it would take several years. She also stated that Meredith does have a trip and it generally doesn't sell out and interested Moultonborough residents can attend their trip.

Hilary brought up Interlakes Cal Ripkin Program and the fact that people are very upset with the negative coaching. Hilary has heard that coaches are verbally abusive to the players and has heard negative comments about the caliber of some coaches but has seen nothing yet in writing. 7 players have left the sport this season. The State defines what region we fall into so we can't have our own Cal Ripkin program. Since there's no Little League and Babe Ruth is for older boys there's not really other options. While the Recreation Department is now only responsible for facility reservation Carla believes the Department still needs to do something. Jon Tolman made the decision for Moultonborough to join Cal Ripkin. Jim Sheehan is the president and Hilary has given his number out to people who have called in complaints. Carla believes people have asked Jim to step down to no avail. Carla also said that the politics going on in the program will be detrimental to the Academy program at some point. Harry asked who the point person is for Moultonborough; Carla answered that it's Eric Porusta, and Harry then suggested that he contact other towns in our region. He also suggested writing letters to the state level and having multiple parents sign them.

VII. CITIZEN INPUT: NONE.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, July 11th at 7:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Harry made motion to adjourn. Celeste seconded. Motion carried. With no further business before the Board AI adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.