

**Port Chester Recreation and Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2009**

Meeting Began at 7:00 P.M.

- Present: Mickey DeCarlo, Frank Errigo, Aspasia Tofano, Linda Turturino and Superintendent Thomas Hroncich
- Absent: Alternate Rocco Plateroti, Charles Melillo, Lynn Errigo-Shields, Mike Pinto, Dominic Bencivenga
- Excused: Recreation Chairperson Kim Morabito
- Present: **Park Commission:** Chairperson Jerry Terranova, Connie Thalheimer, John Reavis
- Absent: Fabiola Montoya, Marie Martin

Park Chairperson Jerry Terranova called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. Meeting Minutes February 2009

The February minutes were voted on and passed.

Parks Discussion: Bocce – Park Chairperson Jerry Terranova informed the Commissions that he and Superintendent Hroncich met with some of the men from the Bocce League and he read the minutes that he took during that meeting/discussion. Park Chairperson Terranova led the discussion.

Park Chairperson Terranova informed the Commissions that the Bocce Court is a mess, and that if we open it up to the public we'd be crazy. Terranova stated that they settled for \$100.00 per team and we will see what we can do next year. They buy their own trophies and pay for their own dinner. Park Chairperson Terranova recommends we settle for \$100.00. Recreation Commission DeCarlo disagreed and stated that's only \$12.00 per person. Superintendent Hroncich stated that the Bocce group will provide the labor to improve the courts if the Village provides the materials. Recreation Commissioner Tofano stated that if they double and if they're willing to fix it up then she suggested we go with it.

Superintendent Hroncich stated that they Bocce group are pleased and happy and that they've been playing for over 40 years, they would accept the \$100.00 going forward, but not to open the gates 24/7 to the public unless an attendant is always on duty because of vandalism.

Park Commissioner Reavis stated that he understands they're reluctant of doubling the fees, but they've had a good run and since they're all retirees, why not set up a monitor/volunteer time on the weekend and have the courts open (monitor activities around the Bocce courts) and perhaps ask if these kids would like to learn how to play Bocce. Superintendent Hroncich will make this suggestion on behalf of the Park Commission.

At this time a motion was made to accept for them to pay \$100.00, accepted, no one opposed.

Superintendent Hroncich informed the Commissioners that the Village use to maintain the courts, and Jim Cole, former Superintendent of Public Works made a deal with the Bocce group, and it was determined that the Bocce group would maintain the courts and it's significantly lower the cost of what the Village was paying and they're saving the Village money.

Recreation Commissioner Frank Errigo feels they still have exclusive rights at those courts and you can't use it unless you join the group.

Recreation Commissioner Tofano suggested making it where the public gets a permit and provide insurance to use the courts.

Park Commissioner Reavis asked, have they ever thought of having a Bocce tournament.

Recreation Commissioner Tofano stated why not treat it the same as soccer and would they be willing to run an instructional program to be used for the next generation and that would be a way of giving back to the community. Again Superintendent Hroncich will bring this suggestion to the Bocce Leader, Larry Giordano to discuss among the teams.

II. Public Viewpoints

Superintendent Hroncich informed the Commissions that Sgt. Vaccaro called to inform him that he would not be at this meeting, but that the Traffic Commissions did meet and they did discuss traffic issues on Parkway Drive (parking on Parkway Drive and the Corner of Putnam ad Parkway Drive sidewalk). He hopes to be able to be at the next meeting (April 8) to discuss the issues, but at this time Superintendent had no details.

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Meetings

Recreation Commissioner Frank Errigo asked the Superintendent if he could give a quick blurb/description about his meetings and this may eliminate the need for some questions asked. Superintendent stated that most of the meetings have a comment following each meeting unless it's a Council of Community Services Board meeting or South East Consortium Board meeting, a Chamber Board meeting because their agendas include several items.

Park Commissioner Reavis asked regarding Superintendent's meetings with Colangelo are they looking at getting a design at all three locations.

B. Programs

IV. Old Business

PCYBL – (Concession Stand at Lyon Park) – Superintendent informed the Commissioners that we do not have plans or anything at this time.

Budget – Superintendent informed the Commissioners that no dates have been schedule for budget workshops the Village Manager will submit his budget on March 20th.

Bocce – Discussed earlier.

V. New Business

ARC – Saturday Program – Superintendent Hroncich informed the Commissioners that he had some people to call inquiring about the job, but no one showed up.

Manager’s Pending Agenda – Superintendent said he did not bring the agenda, but that it’s about 20 pages

VI. Committee Reports

Entertainment – Recreation Commissioner Turturino informed the Commissioners that they have a meeting scheduled for next week, and that they are expanding on the list of people for the downtown concerts and that they still have openings. Recreation Commissioner also stated that the letters for donations were sent out.

Baseball - Recreation Commissioner DeCarlo informed the Commissions that the PCYBL wants to rent the field for 35 and over for a tournament and a co-ed tournament.

The Commissioners were informed that baseball and soccer fields are booked for main events (Crawford Park) up to eight (8) months in advance. Recreation Commissioner Errigo said this is unfair and not in keeping with providing the park, fields and mansion available to community groups as opposed to renting the facilities out to corporations and out of towners to make the Towns revenue look good.

VII. Correspondences

“Babe” Gioffre Proposal – Superintendent Hroncich informed the Commissioners that the Board accepted the request and they need a recommendation of what they want to do. A copy of the memo to the Village Manager from Superintendent Hroncich was distributed to the Commissioners regarding his recommendations. Superintendent also suggested that perhaps PCYBL could play one game at the dedication at Abendroth Park. Park Commissioner Thalheimer will look at the site and recommend a site, bench and/or language for a plaque. Also the cost, payment needs to be addressed.

Other

Superintendent Hroncich informed the Commissioners that we just received permission from the school that we can use King Street School this year for the Summer Camp and that we will rotate from King Street to the Middle School to Park Avenue. It was suggested that perhaps we could invite the School District Liaison to a Park and recreation meeting to discuss. Superintendent Hroncich will send a letter to the Village Manager with the Commissions request.

The meeting was brought to a close at 9:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 8th.

Submitted by,

Louise Prioleau