

Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of Special meeting

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission on Wednesday, January 19, 2011, at the Armory. In attendance were Commissioners Dan Lovallo, Jim Pescatore, Superintendent Brett Simmons, Recreation Director Donna Winn, and members of the Softball Committee.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss plans for the upcoming softball season.

Superintendent Simmons stated that he would like to see the men's and women's committees joining together to make it a little easier on the department.

Ken Frizzo stated that the issues facing both of those leagues are very different and that they should remain separate.

Discussion during the meeting included:

- The possibility of using metal bats
- Each player bringing their own bats, but limiting choices
- The use of a junk ball to begin the season and then change to a better ball
- Using a different company to purchase the bats.

After all discussion, it was decided not to make any changes for this year using the same bats and balls for the upcoming season.

As there were three women in attendance who were willing to be members of a women's softball committee, the following issues were discussed.

- Reasons why many girls don't play are money and tough divisions.
- Should there be a pregnancy rule included in our rules?
- Women's fields aren't as good when compared to the men's.
- Some umpires have an attitude which causes concern among the women's teams.
- Could there be some kind of recognition for winners?

- The grass is too high behind the backstop at Joe Ruwet field resulting in many lost balls and health concerns.
- They would like to continue to play modified pitch and look into the possibility of the lower divisions playing slow pitch.
- Could two more games be added on to the women's schedule? Brett Simmons will look into the cost of such an addition.

Umpire Bill Nataro addressed the committee with the concerns of the umpires in regards to the women continuing modified pitch versus changing to slow-pitch. He stated that the umpires will now charge \$41.00 per game.

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Fairchild

Recorder of the Day