

REC COM MEETING MINUTES FROM 03/10/11

Attendees: Paul, Dave, Tim, Mary, Blythe

Meeting started at 7:06 pm in Memorial School Conference room

*Mike Andrews – Eagle Scout candidate from Upton, presented the committee with his plans and spec list for building of the docks at Kiwanis. He provided pricing for both pressure treated (recommended) and composite decking and will be using barrels for the floatation device on the docks. Mike will be soliciting CPA funding for the cost of the materials and will hopefully begin the work this spring/summer.

- Tim made motion to approve Mike's proposal, which passed unanimously

*Memorial Field – Huntress close to completing front end specifications which will go to Blythe for review. She will mark up any changes and resubmit to Huntress for completion. Hopeful bid will be posted at 4/1.

*We had a "big picture" discussion with Blythe about having the Rec Com become a town responsibility with a more formal Rec Director position that would be hired/supported by the town. We discussed how the programs continue to be very successful and the monies continue to show that Rec Com could be close to a self-supported agency, if we were able to become more formalized as a town agency. Blythe suggested we talk with other Boards in town to see they started growing and adding hired help and also suggested we eventually meet with both the Board of Selectman and the Financial Commission to learn more about the process.

*Craig Preston and Sherry Berger came to meeting with interest in working on a field sub-committee. Dave provided detail on what responsibilities would fall under that group and we all agree that a new group of 4-6 people may be very valuable as we look to develop new fields in town. Both Craig and Sherry are going to solicit other volunteers and we will likely meet again in April/May to formally start this new endeavor.

*Kids@ Play – Mary provided detailed update on plans for interviews, adventure program, counselor meetings, etc and everything is progressing nicely. Interviews set for mid April and hopefully all hiring will be down before the middle of May.

*Ramsey Building – after review/discussion, motion was made by Tim to hire George MacDonald to build new closet in the main room. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Once closet is complete, carpet will be installed and Gary Harper has already completed painting. Upstairs will now be totally renovated by late April/early May!

*Field Usage – went through long list of field usage requests and all were approved with fees confirmed. Mary will contact the applicants and checks will now be due BEFORE the start of the season, so we won't have to "chase" the money after the fact.

*Milford Rec Com – Mary had a meeting with the director in Milford and she is working on several ideas on swapping resources during the summer programs. Milford is willing to donate some kayaks to our town/program in exchange for being able to use Kiwanis one day/week and they are also willing to allow us to use their buses so we can go to Milford and use rock wall/pool, etc. Sounded very promising on some of the ideas exchanged and Mary will further those discussions over the next couple of months and report back with specific requests.

*Charity Bike Race – annual “kids challenge” has requested a donation from Rec Com for their race in June. We approved donating a kids@play scholarship and Mary will handle this request.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 and next meeting is set for Thursday, April 7, 2011