

Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2014

Attendees: Rich Gazoorian, Rick Lacrosse, Paul Pirozzi, Jeff Thompson

Meeting started at 8:08 at Ramsey Building

*Financial – Rich provided summary of all programs profit/loss year-to-date, with following details:

Kids@Play Program +\$42,000	Yoga -\$2000
Theatre Programs +3400	Zumba -\$550
Volleyball, Youth & Adult +\$4175	Boot Camp -\$210
Conditioning Program +\$475	Street Hockey -\$229
Pilates Program +\$120	Summer Concert Series -\$2385

Some explanation for programs losing money could be related to new equipment expenses but all will be evaluated moving forward to determine which programs should continue to be offered and which should be closed. Current total balance in Rec Com account is slightly above \$35,000.00

*Kiwanis Basketball and Tennis Court Updates – town hired Chris Huntress to evaluate the work to be done on these courts. Chris did a complete walk through and provided following estimates and scope of work on both courts:

Tennis – Mill the top surface down by “roughing up” what is currently there and then paving over the top of this with new, smooth coat of asphalt. Two courts would then be “cut” into a total of four quarters with dividing line between the two courts and underneath the net location of both courts. This would allow for ¼” expansion joint to be added that will assist during frost/excessive heat, etc. Poles currently installed would stay in place and existing fence would be reinstalled.

Basketball – much worse condition and Huntress is recommending complete removal of existing court and both poles/backboards/nets. A trench needs to be added, to allow for proper drainage, between the bank leading up to top field and the court. Upon completion, entire court surface should be replaced with new poles/backboards.

Total cost estimate from Huntress for all of this work is \$130k, using required prevailing wages, which is roughly \$42k over the already approved CPC allocation of \$88,000. Rich is going to present at CPC during November meeting and, upon approval, a Public hearing will be set and bids will be sent out. If all is approved the plan would be to start this construction in the spring. If the additional funding is not approved, we may take this project in steps and complete what we can now and resubmit CPC request at later date for remaining work.

*Hiring of new Recreation Director – Resumes have been coming in and Town has received 10-11 to date with deadline for submittal of October 6, 2014. Personnel Board is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, 10/14, to review the applicants and narrow the list to 5 most qualified candidates. Rec Com is encouraged to attend this meeting. Once the 5 are selected, they will interview with Rec Com and we

will present selection to Personnel Board and Town Manager, who will ultimately be responsible for extending any job offers and completing the process. Ideally, we will have a new Director in place by end of November/mid December and all are focused on making that happen.

*Ramsey Building – new door and frame is being installed at top of stairs at main entrance. Existing door is in poor shape and work will hopefully be completed by end of October. Jeff Thompson is overseeing this work.

*Memorial School Skating Rink – Rick Lacrosse is in town with Precision Paving and they now plan to install the berm around the tennis court in late October/early November. Rick will make sure he stays in touch with them as they were delayed last year, which resulted in no skating rink! If Precision is not responsive, we will search for another paving contractor to install ASAP.

*New Town Hall Meeting Rooms – beginning in November, all Rec Com monthly meetings will now be in Town Hall in basement conference room.

*Field Usage Request – Rich Gazorian was contacted by Nipmuc Ultimate Frisbee Club about using West River Field, M-F from 2:00-3:30, for next five weeks. He is going to contact them and suggest they use the outfield at Kiwanis Field, as it is larger and better suited for this activity.

*Summer Concert Series – all recognize it was very poorly received this past summer and we are evaluating options for next year. Included suggestions are to move to Thursday evening, rather than Sunday, and start earlier in the year going weekly from early June-Mid July. We are also investigating serving good from grill and using volunteer labor for town scout troops. As example, local Cub Scout Troop has requested holding October meeting at Pavilion and we are going to offer this for free in exchange for them donation time at concerts to assist with set-up, trash pick up, etc.

*Heritage Day – was celebrated on Sat, Sept 27th, and generally reported poor attendance although Rich was at Town Green and said there was a lot of activity. No report on triathlon that was taking place in Blackstone Valley and involved Kiwanis area.

*Fire Pit at Kiwanis – Walk though was held with Bill Porter and Brett Nasuti's mother regarding the final details for the pit. Final size was determined to be 12 feet x 12 feet and there is no need to do any leveling at the location, so work can start immediately. Still trying to decide on best method to put cover/lock on the pit and that will be finalized before completion. Work is scheduled to start as early as the weekend of October 3-5th.

*Leland Field Shed – also being constructed by local scout, Zach Crosby, and we have agreed to add a Cupola to the top of the shed which will be used to house the security cameras for the surrounding property. Construction remains on schedule to begin this fall and we should have an update at our November meeting.

*Street Hockey – Doug Russel I is once again running the program and they started in mid September. We purchased some new nets/equipment for Doug as it has been several years since we have replaced any of the equipment.

*DPW – Irrigation and landscape work being completed at Kiwanis Beach area still hopefully on schedule for this fall. Jeff is waiting for the irrigation contractor to hopefully finish the job installing lines

between the beach area and parking lot and, if they cannot complete in October, this work will be put off until the spring.

*Temporary Rec Com responsibilities – Rich has delegated the Director job responsibilities among the Rec Commission until a replacement Director is hired. Rich will handle all financials, scout projects and Kiwanis court replacement activities while Paul takes care of outstanding collections for Kids@Play, communication with current instructors and Rick Lacrosse will handle the Memorial Rink berm, field usage requests and any field cancellation policy issues.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm and next meeting scheduled for November 6, 2014 at Town Hall beginning at 7:30 pm