Monthly Meeting – March 23, 2009

Members Present: Bill Paecht, Bob Lang, Mike Gargano, Dom Bellucci
Members Absent: Ray Faustich

Guests Present: Marc Weissman, Jay Jaffer, Kristin Jaffer, Christopher Ewen, Al Bruno, Lucy McConologue, Bill Sawicki, Dennis Rozum, Craig Stevens, Bob Koskelowski, Jr., Missy Orosz, Alex Danka, Daryn Salerno, Jay Hatfield

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Bill Paecht

Minutes of the February 23, 2009 meeting were read. Motion to approve, Dom, 2nd Mike. All in favor.

Field usage and conflicts were addressed. Bill explained to the guests representing all youth sport groups in town that record numbers of teams are utilizing town parks. However, due to budgetary constraints, it will be difficult to maintain and prepare all fields for use this year. PW Director Dennis Rozum explained the system of maintenance that is employed. If fields are overused, they can’t be rejuvenated. A crew of 3 employees has to maintain 20 parks. Many sports are played on a year round basis, using fields even when they are out of season. It was stressed that school teams have preference on all town fields. Furthermore, in season sports have preference over out of season sports.

Trash removal is becoming a serious problem in the parks. Garbage cans are overflowing, especially on weekends. Groups were asked to police after themselves in this regard. If need be, extra trash cans will be placed where they are needed. In the case of sprinkler malfunctions, groups can call Dennis at 676-6778. They are due mainly to lightning strikes.
Daryn Salerno from Seymour Pop Warner requested the use of DeBarber Field (track & sidelines) for cheerleader practice. The Board of Education had disallowed this in the past. It will be looked into.

Dennis & Bob Koskelowski, Jr. explained why we have a policy of “no sweeping” on the skin areas of parks. Bill Ragaini from GJ Hummel LL asked about the grass in the infield areas of Chatfield Park and Gary Park.

Board members expressed displeasure with the early arrival of rides for the annual Pumpkin Festival. After discussion, the dates of their permit were changed to Wednesday to Sunday to cover this. The rides have to be brought in during daylight hours to avoid damaging sprinkler heads.

The Wildcat Football Camp and Seymour Soccer Camp were in conflict at the middle school soccer field. Seymour Soccer president Al Bruno will get back to us with the exact date of their camp and the Wildcat Camp will work around that.

Seymour Soccer will not be using Sochrin’s Pond Park and the Community Center Field in the spring.

Three new permits were approved for Chatfield Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM. Motion by Dom, 2nd Mike. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Lang
Secretary, Parks Commission