

East Haddam Parks and Recreation

Business Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2015

Present: Walter Parkus, Mary Colpoys, Michael Michalski, Chick Grillo, Cindy Deming, Madelene Francese, Margy Roberts, Tiffany Quinn

Absent: John Gowac, Ed Smith

Guests: Nell Reinwold

Cindy Deming made a motion to accept the January 8, 2015 business meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Madelene Francese, and passed unanimously.

Walt Parkus made a motion to dispense with the treasures report (budget to be discussed later in the meeting), seconded by Cindy, and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Music on the River Committee- Meeting dates are being discussed

Old Business:

1. Budget- the Recreation Commission budget was presented to the Board of Selectman at a meeting prior to this meeting. The requested increases were discussed including, salary increase for the Recreation Director (market increase and COLA) in the amount of \$60,681; increase in intern opportunities and summer hours in the amount of \$10,720(an increase of \$8,720); Disc Golf proposal- which was decreased by \$5000 by including the Agricultural Education program at the High School, and requesting the use of the Consumers Union donation funds for a new request of \$18,201.
 - a. The next budget meeting dates for the Board of Finance are-
 - b. April 7th at 7:00 – Public Hearing at the High School
 - c. April 21 at 8:00 –Town Meeting at the Town Hall
 - d. May 5th- Referendum
 - e. Cindy made a motion to accept the budget request for 2015-2016 as submitted, seconded by Margy, and passed unanimously.
2. Basketball- travel basketball, grades 5/6 was discussed due to emails and prior discussions about the coaches' decision not to attend the league banquet. Tiffany provided the history of text messages and emails between herself and the Head Coach, Shawn Conroy. The discussion included expectations of the program, the coaches, the future of the program and follow up recommendations:
 - a. Revisiting the contract that the coaches sign and the agreement they make with the Recreation Department.

- b. Discussion about team decisions, awards, leagues, and past coaching that was brought up in Mr. Conroy's email in relation to the current program and future programs; all decisions were tabled until a future meeting.
 - c. The Commission needs to make a decision about the future of the program, and what changes will benefit the players and the community. This decision was tabled until further notice.
 - d. Tiffany agreed to look at the current procedures and write standardized procedures/policies for the travel program to present at a future meeting based on our past experiences with volunteer coaches, 2 different leagues, cost involved and recruiting qualified players and coaches.
3. Disc Golf: Tiffany attended the Open Space meeting on Jan. 26th and discussed the current plan with the members of the Open Space committee and the Land Trust. 2 members were not in favor of using the Nichols Field trails, in fear they would not stand up well to heavy foot traffic and use. After a long discussion, the verbiage was changed on the agreement and we agreed that once the snow melted we would walk the trails and see if we could determine an appropriate location that would not be detrimental to the trails and existing foliage.
4. Mary Colpoys agreed to be the Recreation Commissions representative to the Open Space commission. When she is unable to attend, Tiffany agreed to attend to obtain the information pertinent to the Recreation Commission. Tiffany will send a letter to the Open Space commission letting them know that Mary will be our representative.

New Business

1. Summer employment applications are coming in, the deadline is March 15th.
2. Tiffany will be recommending scheduling and registration changes to camp this summer, more information will be provided at the March meeting.
3. For those that were not able to attend the presentation earlier tonight, we were awarded this citation by Rep. Melissa Ziobron as well as the designation of a Heartsafe Community by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health. This was awarded jointly to both the Recreation Commission and the East Haddam Ambulance.

Chick made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Margy at 8:02 p.m., and it was passed unanimously.