

RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
January 20, 2011

Attending: C. Deming; J. Gowac; C. Grillo; B. Parker; V. Parkus; M. Roberts; T. Quinn

Brad Parker called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the December 16, 2010 meeting. MR. GOWAC MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2010 MEETING AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. GRILLO AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Gowac reported that the Budget Committee had met and reviewed the budget. He stated that Ms. Quinn will follow-up with the Finance Director on several questions that were raised in their meeting. There was a general discussion about the new format and the Commissioners agreed it was somewhat confusing. Mr. Gowac advised that Ms. Quinn will maintain a separate spreadsheet of the Commission's revenues and expenses as a check and balance until they are comfortable with the new budget format.

Guest and Audience

There were no guests or audience in attendance.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence to discuss.

Committee Reports

A. Basketball

Ms. Quinn reported that Mr. Smith has set-up a standard training program for basketball and it is going very well.

B. Budget

Ms. Quinn reported that she had prepared a 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan. She stated that she reduced the 2011-2012 Capital expenditure for Nichols Field from \$10,000.00 to \$6,000.00 and that the amount includes funds for 2 new picnic tables, a sign, over-seeding and wood chips. She advised that she also added budget lines for the tennis courts and the proposed dog park. She stated that she is getting estimates for repairs to the fence at the tennis courts and for the dog park fence. Mr. Parkus recommended she get an estimate from Atlas Fence.

C. Music on the River

Mr. Parker and Ms. Deming reported that the Committee has started it's review of the audition CDs and that the next meeting is scheduled for February 15th.

Ms. Roberts stated that a community member had suggested the Committee organize an open-mic night at the end of the season for Town groups. The Commissioners discussed the suggestion but agreed that the logistics make it difficult manage such an event.

Ms. Quinn suggesting organizing a Christmas Caroling event outside of the Goodspeed. Mr. Parker noted that a group in Town used to organize a mobile caroling program that traveled by bus to shut-ins, Chestelm, and Oak Grove. He noted it was well-received and that there was usually a holiday party after the carolers had made their rounds. The Commissioners agreed the caroling event sounded like a good idea.

Director's Report

Ms. Quinn reported on the following:

- She had granted an exception to the new rule to reject any late basketball registrations. She stated that she was able to accommodate the request because another player had withdrawn from the program and she added the new registrant to that team.
- The yoga instructor had quit because of the poor condition the Grange was regularly left in for her class. Ms. Quinn advised that she had discussed the situation with First Selectman Walter and suggested moving the class to the Senior Center. She stated Mr. Walter agreed with her suggestion and the program has been moved to the Senior Center and the yoga instructor is back teaching the class.
- The plans for Heritage Park have been simplified. She noted that the plans for plantings have been eliminated for now which will make it easier to maintain the grass areas.
- She called the Commissioners' attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding a dog park, including her written proposal and recommended park rules. She noted that she had presented the plan at the January 5th Board of Selectmen's meeting and that the Selectmen and citizens in attendance were very supportive of the proposal. In response to a question from Mr. Grillo, she confirmed that she had spoken with the Little League who agreed to relinquish the ball field. She also confirmed that to the best of her knowledge, there have been no law suits involving the Colchester dog park and the only complaint they have received since the park was opened was related to the delayed installation of donor bricks.

Old Business

A. Basketball Changes

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on above minutes under Committee Reports.

New Business

A. Town Beach Pipes

Ms. Quinn reported that the pipes in the bathroom at the Town beach had frozen and burst. She stated that she usually has the bathroom winterized but this year it had fallen through the cracks due to a miscommunication. She stated that the initial repair estimate is \$2000.00 and that the Town's insurance deductible is \$5000.00. Ms. Quinn advised that she had informed the Selectmen and met with the Board of Finance regarding the issue. There was a general discussion regarding the damages and expected repairs. It was agreed that a final evaluation could not be made until the spring.

Ms. Quinn distributed copies of a proposed Parks & Rec Building Repair and Maintenance schedule that she had presented to the Board of Finance. At Mr. Parkus suggestion, the Commissioners agreed the document should be amended to state that the bathrooms should be shut-down when the Town beach is closed for the season.

MS. DEMING MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE BUILDING REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE AS AMENDED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. ROBERTS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Budget

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on in these minutes under Treasurer's Report and Committee Reports.

MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2011-2012 BUDGET AS PROPOSED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. GOWAC AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment

There being no additional business to discuss, MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. DEMING AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon R. Wheeler
Recording Secretary