

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 28, 2006

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm.

Attendance: Chris McDonald, Huck House and Bob White. Larry Forrest arrived at 8:35. Also present were John Flynn, Victoria Puff and Sue Rauscher.

Minutes: The minutes from February 14, 2006, February 18, 2006 and February 21, 2006 were read. Huck made a motion to accept the minutes from February 14, 2006 as read. Bob seconded. All in favor 3-0. Huck made a motion to accept the minutes from February 18, 2006 as read. Bob seconded. All in favor 3-0. Huck made a motion to accept the minutes from February 21, 2006 as read. Bob seconded. All in favor 3-0.

Bills: Reviewed and paid.

Baseball: Tom Argenio was chosen as the head coach for the 7&8th Tri-Town team. He will be unable to coach due to prior obligations. John has recommended that Bob White step up from assistant coach and be the head coach of this team.

John gave the Board an update: He will be holding a head coaches meeting on March 7, 2006 to go over CORI and code of conduct paperwork. The deadline of April 15, 2006 for all paperwork to be turned in was set by the Board.

Jeremy Donnelly will work with Rick Willis as an assistant coach to one of the 3&4th rec teams.

Tri-Town coaches need the NYSCA certifications.

First aid/CPR certifications should be up-to-date. Debbie will call AMR for pricing on a class.

Baseballs have been ordered and are in. We will need about 20 helmets. John is waiting to find out if face guards are required on the helmets.

A Hampden player on the JLS Hampden-Wilbraham team would like to come back to the Hampden pony league. He would join Bob White's 7&8th Tri-Town team.

Wilbraham will be contacting us to arrange for field use. They are willing to donate materials or prep work. The Hampden-Wilbraham teams will need to use the field also.

Sponsorships: The idea of having sponsors was discussed. The cost to a sponsor was \$350 per John. He suggests \$250 would be better. John feels that a sign at the park with the sponsor's name, baseball hats with the sponsor's name on the back and equipment bags with the sponsor's name on them are a better way to go. The sponsors could also donate fill and materials or field work. Leftover monies could be used for bases, field maintenance... Debbie will check on pricing for equipment bags and hats with embroidered names.

Spray Park Update: Sue asked if Gary Weiner could attend the next meeting (March 14, 2006) to show the Board the plans and layout of the spray park. She also gave an update. Sue is going to have an attorney look into whether or not parts of the project would have to go out to bid since they will be dealing with some Town money. She is going to get clarification on the proper ways to do things. If the Board has any questions for the attorney, they should be submitted to Pam in the Selectmen's office by Monday, March 6, 2006. Sue is still seeking donations and is planning a fundraiser and a home tour. The Board informed Sue that there is a chlorinator available at the park if she can use it.

Code of Conduct Forms: Code of Conduct forms for parents, players and coaches are to be filled out and returned to the Parks & Recreation office and kept on file. Baseball paperwork including CORI forms with a copy of a picture ID is to be turned in by April 15, 2006 or field practice will not be scheduled. Spring soccer coaches also need to fill out and turn in their paperwork.

Meeting Procedures: Chris reminded the Board to stick to the agenda items so that the meeting can proceed in a timely fashion.

Green Meadows School: Chris received a call from Duane about the way the gym has been left after basketball sessions. The curtains have been stained, the floor has not been swept and soda was spilled and left. The Board will put out reminders to people using the gyms to be more diligent about cleaning up and sweeping.

Softball: Larry has discussed softball with CW from Wilbraham. Larry made a motion to allow the girls in grades 2, 3 and 4 to tryout for NEYSA, a competitive team. The remaining girls from Hampden will form a rec team with the Wilbraham girls filling out the balance. This team will be in the Youth Rec Softball League with East Longmeadow and Wilbraham. Girls in grades 5 & 6 will combine with Wilbraham to form an A & B team. The team with the most girls from one town will have a coach from the same town. There will be one Hampden and one Wilbraham coach. Girls in grades 7 & 8 will do the same as the 5th & 6th graders. Three teams will practice and play games in Hampden and the P&R Board will choose the coaches for these teams. Bob seconded. All in favor 4-0. Larry will call the parents to explain what will be done.

New Business: The Parks and Recreation office received a call regarding a spring soccer signup who will not be playing now. There was discussion on the refund policy. Huck made a motion to deny the refund due to the policy in place which states that there will not be a refund once the rosters are set. Bob seconded. All in favor 3-0. A letter will be sent to the family explaining the policy and letting them know that if they feel there is an unforeseen circumstance they are welcome to come in to a meeting and explain.

The Charlotte E. Miller Youth Award applications are available in the Parks & Recreation office.

Old Business: There were some changes to the movie night schedule previously set. Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire will be shown on March 11, 2006 at TWB at 6:30pm in the gym. Chicken Little will be shown on March 25, 2006 at the Town Hall at 7:00pm. The Chronicles of Narnia will be shown on April 8, 2006 at the Town Hall at 7:00pm.

Gym rental fees, field fees and priority fees were discussed. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Statement of Values insurance form was discussed. Clarification is needed. Larry will get in touch with Duane on this.

The signboard policy was set. Larry made a motion to keep the signboard for Parks & Recreation sponsored events only. Huck seconded. All in favor 4-0.

We received the Emergency Certification Form back from Conservation with their signatures on it. This was for the October 2005 flood damage at the Park. Huck spoke with Charlie Schmitt to confirm that this was filed by Conservation. We will keep the form on file in the office.

Larry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40pm. Huck seconded. All in favor 4-0.

The next meeting will be on March 14, 2006 at 7:00pm.