

Approved 2/13/07
HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 23, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:08pm.

Attendance: Chris McDonald, Bob White and Mark Goossens. Huck House arrived at 7:16pm and Larry Forrest arrived at 7:34pm. Also in attendance were Bob Gomez, John Flynn, Brian Fitzgerald and Bruce Stewart.

Minutes: The minutes from January 9, 2007 were read. Mark made a motion to accept the minutes from January 9, 2007 as read. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted 3-0.

Bills: None

Baseball-4th grade: Bob Gomez has researched the possibility of the 4th grade boys playing in the JLS League. Standard baseball rules are used. There is a \$175 league fee and a \$15/umpire/game fee. We would have to buy hats and balls. There will be 15-20 games per season. Third graders can also be included. The JLS League could be the travel option for the 3rd & 4th graders. The Rec team will still be offered as well. Bob feels that they could be a C or maybe a B division team and be competitive. Evaluations for the JLS League will be held indoors at Green Meadows on Tuesday, February 27 and Wednesday, February 28. John will call CW for evaluators. The registration fee will be \$90. The registration sheet for baseball will go out through the schools the last week of January.

Soccer: The U12 boys' soccer team had two players leave the team. There were not enough players left to meet the minimum required by Pioneer Valley to form a team. A letter will be sent to the families with information on how to contact the Wilbraham Soccer Club and refunds will be mailed out shortly. There will be future discussion on our continuance with the Pioneer Valley Soccer League.

Basketball: Rick Kapinos, as basketball coordinator, reported an incident that happened at one of the boys CYO games. The CYO league responded, asking for identification of the other team's player in question. Rick also responded to the family of our player. The Board has asked that Rick keep them up to date on the situation. Rick and our coach, John Bellerose will be asked to attend the next meeting.

Huck passed on some new information from Noel on the TWB gym. New sensor lights have been installed in the gym. The light switches are not to be used. Also, the doors to the outside in the boys' locker room will no longer have the security bars on them. The coaches and other gym workers will need to double check these doors to make sure they are closed tightly before they leave. The doors that go to the hallway of the school will also be unlocked. No one is to be allowed into the hallways.

Old Business: Chris went to the last Selectmen's meeting to discuss the replacement of the RAH building roof. We need to get three additional bids. Larry stated that he would like to see other bids. The Selectmen will help with the cost above the capital improvement funds that we have so that we can take care of this right away.

SORI vs. CORI - Larry checked with Chief Farnsworth as to whether the Parks & Recreation Department should be requiring SORI checks from our coaches. We currently only require the CORI checks. According to the Chief, the CORI checks cover everything where the SORI checks may not.

Spray Park Meeting – There will be a special meeting on Wednesday, February 7th to discuss the policies and procedures to be put in place for the opening of the Spray Park. Chief Farnsworth and Sue Rauscher will be invited. The Board is interested in their input.

Baseball Evaluators – Mark will contact Mike Cronin regarding gift cards for the evaluators who helped out with the 5&6 evaluations.

New Business: Red Sox games – Huck researched a couple of bus trips to see the Red Sox from Peter Pan and King Ward. Huck will think about whether he wants to pursue this or not. The tickets are very high priced and did not sell very well last year.

Future Movies – March 3rd we will show the movie, Barnyard and March 24th we will show the movie, Open Season.

Summer Program Financial Update – The summer program had a loss of \$1064.76.

RAH Fundraiser – RAH will hold its St. Patrick's Day fundraiser on March 17 at the Hampden Country Club at 6pm. Tickets will be \$25. This will be posted on the signboard. Bob can be called for tickets. RAH is looking for ideas on how to spend the money that is raised. Some suggestions were new fences at TWB, backstops and field work. Huck made a motion that the Parks & Recreation Department sponsor two sport registrations, one boy and one girl to be used as raffle prizes at the RAH fundraiser. Mark seconded. All in favor and so voted 5-0.

Pitching Clinic – Jay Ray would like to run a pitching clinic sometime. He has done this before in Monson. He usually holds one session per week for a few weeks. We will wait until our baseball registrations are in and then see how many kids show an interest and decide how to potentially break up the groups of boys.

Huck made a motion to adjourn at 9:10pm. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted 5-0.

Special meeting: February 7, 2007 at 7pm.

Next meeting: February 13, 2007 at 7pm.