

Approved 8/9/07
HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
MEETING MINUTES JULY 24, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:33pm.

Attendance: Chris McDonald, Huck House, Bob White and Mark Goossens. Also in attendance were Sue Rauscher, Carolyn Brennan, Mark Feeney, John Flynn and Brett Purchas.

Minutes: The minutes from July 5, 2007 were read. Huck made a motion to accept the minutes from July 5, 2007 as read. Mark seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0.

Bills: Reviewed and paid.

Sue Rauscher: Sue asked how the spray park was going and if there were any issues or problems that have come up. There is a one year warranty on the spray park. Sue was informed of the problem with the system shutting down almost daily for an hour or so at a time. South Shore replaced the three phase pump but the system still shuts down. Mark Feeney feels that the problem may be with the timer in the phase converter. He said the phase converter takes single phase power and puts it into three phase power. The Park did not have three phase power from the street. The timer may not be resetting itself or working properly. The pump and the motor are functioning properly.

Sue turned over to the Board some paperwork for the spray park. Also she is trying to access some monies in an account for the spray park to give to the Parks & Recreation Department to be used for maintenance and upkeep. Sue has asked to be made aware of any donations that may be received at the Parks & Recreation office for the spray park. She has acknowledged every donation that she has received in the past and would like to continue doing so. There was a discussion about Sue keeping her account open and possibly accepting donations there and then turning the money over to the Parks & Recreation Department or turning the account into a trust. Sue will continue to sell the engraved bricks. The order forms will be available at the Parks & Recreation office and at Memorial Park under the pavilion.

South Shore will winterize the spray park for free the first year. Sue mentioned that there are other local companies that can close and open spray parks for future use.

There was a discussion about only allowing Hampden residents in to the Park. Chris explained that other residents have been using the Park and that the policy was in place to be used if a problem or situation arose. There is no one at the Park checking for residency. Sue added that donations did come from other towns, not just Hampden. The Board has closed the park to the public while the summer program is in session for the protection, safety and security of the children attending and the program staff. This is in effect from July 9-August 10 9am-2pm. When the public is at the Park intermingling with the campers and staff, it creates a problem for the staff in keeping track of their groups of kids. Carolyn mentioned that other communities do the same during their camp sessions.

The Board thanked Sue. Carolyn and Sue thanked the Board for their help throughout the project. The sign out by the road at the entrance of the park will be kept to announce the opening date next season. Mark said that the DEP number can be closed out on line. The project is complete.

Baseball Update: John Flynn gave an update on baseball saying that the teams had a great season. The Pony team won the league championship. The three Bronco teams finished in first, second and third in

the Tri-town league. John mentioned that Tri-town is trying to make the towns have an A team. John is pushing for a B team. George Flanagan did a great job on the Memorial Park field. The Green Meadow fields were in great condition thanks to Jay Ray. John would like to have Jay Ray take over as the baseball coordinator next season. Bill Wilson is going to work on the Park field. The edge will be trimmed down along the third base path.

Memorial Park: Brett Purchas presented the Board with a packet of information on camera equipment for the spray park. The camera would be monitored at the Police Department. John Flynn told the Board that the Selectmen are committed to helping to protect the Park. Huck made a motion to go with the Trango system presented for the spray park per sufficient funding. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted. 4-0.

There was a discussion about the closing of the Park during the summer program hours. A meeting will be scheduled with Chief Farnsworth when he returns from vacation.

New Business: Refund request-A request was received for a refund of three weeks of the summer program. Five weeks were paid for. The child attended two weeks on and off and does not want to go anymore. Bob made a motion to refund \$225 to the family for three weeks of the summer program. Mark seconded. All in favor and so voted. 4-0.

Spray Park-Huck will purchase more chlorine for the spray park.

Restrooms-The situation of not having the funding to hire someone to open, close and clean the restrooms or operate the snack bar at the Park was discussed at a recent Selectmen's meeting.

Dumpster- The dumpster fills much faster this summer. A larger dumpster may be better for next summer.

Old Computer-The old office computer will be given to the library.

Dugouts-Bob informed the Board that approval was given to the Boy Scouts to build dugouts at the TWB baseball field.

Memorial Park 2nd pavilion-The old pavilion behind the playground in the woods at Memorial Park has been repaired by the Girl Scouts.

Fall Soccer-The season starts August 25 for the Pioneer Valley League. TWB will have one modified field and one practice field this season. The fields need to be set up and lined in preparation for the season.

Old Business: The Friends of the Library borrowed the movie projector and DVD player for their movie night. Huck helped them set up and clean up at the end of the movie.

Mark made a motion to adjourn at 10:15pm. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted. 4-0.

Next meeting: August 14, 2007