

Approved 11/13/07
HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 23, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:32pm.

Members Present: Chris McDonald, Huck House and Bob White. Mark Goossens arrived at 7:34pm and Larry Forrest arrived at 7:36pm.

Also Present: Rick Kapinos and John Flynn

Minutes: The minutes from October 9, 2007 were read. Huck made a motion to accept the minutes from October 9, 2007 as read. Larry seconded. All in favor and so voted 5-0.

Bills: Reviewed and paid.

Basketball: Basketball tryouts for the travel teams for grades 5-8 will be held on October 27 & 28. Drills from the past few years will be used. A scrimmage will be held the last half hour of each tryout session. This will give the evaluators more time to look at the kids and to see them play the game. Rick is still looking for a few more evaluators. High school kids who are familiar with the game are welcome to help facilitate. Tryouts for grades 3 & 4 for the CYO League will be held on November 3.

Rick checked with the Suburban League on the possibility of forming a Hampden-Wilbraham combined team. The Suburban League does not want towns combining to form a team. Wilbraham Park & Recreation thought that if we were combining kids it should be for all teams not just one. The subject is tabled until next season.

Fall Soccer U10: Janene Kane, coach of the U10 girls' soccer team, reported an incident with a parent at a game on October 13. Bob White and Mike Cronin, the soccer coordinators, both spoke with Janene and Bob attended the next game. Janene stated that there was an incident last year also but she did not report it. She would like this year's situation to go on record. She is not pursuing anything, but would like the incident noted.

CTY Sheet: Chris attended the CTY training class that was held last week. The system allows you to form groups and send out one phone message to everyone in your group. There is no cost to departments. The Town purchased the system. This is another way to get a message out to the public. It has a lot of potential and can be remotely activated. An excel form has to be filled out and given to Officer Purchas for input into the system. The Board will think about future uses for the system.

Phone System: The Town Hall will be switching to a new phone system. There will be one main phone number to connect to extensions with in-house mailboxes.

Baseball: The baseball numbers are improving. Mark commented that two Wilbraham boys asked to play for Hampden. They are playing with the Hampden fall baseball team now which is not sponsored by the Parks & Rec. Department. They are in the Pony age group. Two notices have been sent out

through the schools looking for signups and many phone calls have been made. If a few more Pony players sign up, two teams could be formed. One team would be more competitive than the other. Mark made a motion to allow out-of-town kids to try out for Hampden baseball to at least meet the roster minimum requirements. Huck seconded. All in favor and so voted 5-0.

John reported that the TWB field has been rototilled and raked out by the district employees. They will also be doing the aeration and over seeding the infield. At Green Meadows, the pile of rocks will be taken away from the field by Gagliarducci Construction and it will be graded.

Old Business:

Spray Park Update – Mark Feeney sent an email in saying that the convertor needs to be balanced. A balance module will be installed and the power out going to the pump will be checked. After the repairs the spray park will be winterized. Sue Rauscher sent in an email suggesting that the flags on the tumble buckets come down and be stored for the winter.

Movie Nights – On November 17th the movie Ratatouille will be shown and on December 8th the movie Shrek the Third will be shown.

Park Public Access – The Selectmen’s office received the Board’s letter requesting a legal opinion on public access restrictions to the Park during the summer program hours. They asked that we inquire about other Town’s summer program policies. Deb made calls to three other towns and passed on the information to the Selectmen’s office. They will consult the Town attorney on the subject.

Park Restrooms – Larry will call Bisson Plumbing to set up winterization of the restrooms after the Spray Park repairs are done.

Softball – The NEYSA 7th and 8th grade A and B teams are set. There is still room on the C team. Fourteen will be the limit. A “last call” flyer will be sent out for 7th&8th softball signups.

Huck made a motion to adjourn at 8:58pm. Mark seconded. All in favor and so voted 5-0.

Next Meetings: November 13, 2007 **7:00pm**
November 27, 2007 **7:00pm**

Submitted by Deborah House, Clerk