

Approved 2/12/08

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 22, 2008
Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm.

Members Present: Chris McDonald, Huck House, Bob White and Mark Goossens. Larry Forrest arrived at 7:15pm.

Mark left at 8:15pm

Also in attendance: Jay Ray (John Flynn stopped in)

Minutes: The minutes from November 27, 2007 and January 8, 2008 were read. Huck made a motion to accept the minutes from November 27th as read. Mark seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0. Bob made a motion to accept the minutes from January 8th as read. Mark seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0.

Bills: Reviewed and paid.

Baseball 2008: Jay Ray presented the 2008 rosters and his recommendations for the baseball program to the Board. Tryouts and evaluations are complete. Thorough evaluations were done and included different stations, hitting and pitching. There will be two U15 teams, three U13 teams and 2 U11 teams. The first and second graders will be combined to form four in-town teams as opposed to a junior pinto and senior pinto team. The instructional league will be a combination of coach's pitch and kids pitching. Jay will run this on Saturday mornings and it will go all through the summer until school starts. The coaches recommended are as follows: U11 JLS Coach Shank, U11 Eastern Coach D'Agostino, U13 JLS Coach Gomez, U13 Tri-Town Coach Kapinos and Coach Weisse, and U15 Tri-Town Coach Bellerose. The U15 JLS coach is still undecided. An interview may be held. Jay will send out letters to the boys who have been chosen for the U11, U13 and U15 JLS teams. The competitive teams are not for everyone and the letter will give them the option to accept or decline the spot on the team. They can be moved to an alternate roster. Jay would like to finalize the rosters by February 14th. The rosters have to go to Tri-Town by March 3rd. Jay will start the coaches' meetings at the end of February.

Costs and expenses have been reviewed. Jay is looking into corporate sponsors for \$250 for the eleven teams. The sponsors name would be on the shirts. He would like to see all age levels keep the shirts, buy their own pants and eliminate the uniform deposit. T-ball would also need t-shirts. Larry will speak with Wilbraham Recreation to see how they handle the acceptance of checks from sponsors. All baseball equipment has been reviewed and inventoried.

As far as maintenance for the season, the t-ball and 1st and 2nd grade coaches may take care of the field themselves. Someone will be needed as a field worker to help take care of the other fields.

Softball is offered to girls in the first and second grade.

Huck made a motion to accept the rosters as presented, to go forward with the baseball program as presented and to accept all coaching recommendations as presented by Jay Ray. The U15 JLS coach decision will be made at a later date. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted 5-0.

Old Business:

TWB Gym Floor – The TWB custodian cleaned the floor with the machine before the games on Saturday. Two games were played then the floor was cleaned again with the machine and then the rest of the games were played. This seemed to improve the condition of the floor so that the games could be played. There is a concern that dust-like material is coming down from the ceiling panels or that the vents are contributing to the dust. Air samples were taken for safety checks. The problem seems to be a combination of deteriorating floor tiles and dirt and sand from the outside. Also, the bleachers should be back about five feet in order to keep the dirt and sand off of the court. The bleachers will not be pulled out all the way to try to help this situation. A new floor and bleachers are needed.

Softball 2008 – Registration forms will be going out soon for recreational softball for grades 1&2, 3&4 and 5&6. Grades 7&8 are in the NEYSA league. The fees will remain the same as last season.

Movie Night (Hairspray) – Larry and Bob will work the movie night on Saturday.

New Business

Budget FY09 - Chris will attend the advisory meeting on 1/28 to discuss the Parks & Recreation budget requests for FY 09.

Huck made a motion to adjourn at 8:40pm. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0.

Next meetings: February 12, 2008 at 7pm
February 26, 2008 at 7pm

Submitted by Deborah House, Clerk

