

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
Meeting Minutes April 22, 2008
Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 7:36pm.

Members Present: Chris McDonald, Larry Forrest, and Huck House

Absent: Bob White and Mark Goossens

Also Present: Amy Scott and Beth Pecia from Town Planner

Minutes: The minutes from April 8, 2008 were read. Huck made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Larry seconded. All in favor 3-0.

Bills: Reviewed and paid.

Town Planner Calendar: Amy Scott and Beth Pecia will be publishing the Town Planner in local towns. They will be doing one for Hampden and Wilbraham combined. They are looking for advertisements or notices to put in their calendar that reflect our community. They will also be publishing calendars for East Longmeadow and Longmeadow. Robert Charles will be doing all of their photography for the calendar. Community events and announcements will be listed on the calendar which will be mailed free of charge to all residents in December. Studies have shown that 76% of households keep the calendars. Amy and Beth are offering the opportunity to communicate announcements we may have. They have a deadline of August 15th for information that is to be published. Phone numbers and websites of local places will be listed on the back of the calendar. There is also a website to view the calendar online if it is misplaced.

Open Meeting Law: The Board discussed the open meeting law and reviewed a news article on it from the Springfield Republican dated 4/18/08.

Summer Program Fees: The Summer Program registration fees that were increased last year will remain the same for this year. The camp director would like to purchase a vinyl banner for the program to be used yearly. Larry made a motion to keep the summer program registration fees the same as the previous year. Huck seconded. All in favor 3-0.

Old Business:

Chris filled out the food permit renewal form for the Board of Health.

The Conservation Commission will do a site visit of the spray park in the next few weeks and vote on May 21st to close out the DEP number.

New Business:

Larry replaced the spray park drain cover that was removed for the winter.

The edges of both sides of the bridge at Memorial Park are starting to deteriorate. Repairs are needed. Huck will check with Dana Pixley.

A resident interested in renting the pavilion mid to late June asked about setting up a bounce house and using the baseball field. A bounce house will not be allowed and there is no guarantee that the town teams will not have scheduled games then at this point. Schedules are not out yet.

The Friends of the Library have asked to use the popcorn machine on May 9 for the program "Are you smarter than a 5th grader?" The Board has agreed.

New Business continued:

A request was received asking if a child attending the summer program could be charged by the day and attend three out of the five days due to a school reading program conflict. The Board has agreed.

Larry would like to have two girls run the softball scoreboard and unlock the restrooms while the games are going on. They would lock up the restrooms right after the game.

There was a discussion regarding the Parks & Recreation budget and the upcoming Town Meeting.

Huck made a motion to adjourn at 9:00pm. Larry seconded. All in favor 3-0.

Next meetings: May 13, 2008 at **7:30pm**
May 27, 2008 at **7:30pm**

Submitted by Deborah House, Clerk