

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
Meeting Minutes September 23, 2008
Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 7:37pm.

Members Present: Larry Forrest, Bob White and Rick Kapinos. Huck House arrived at 8:10pm.

Absent: Mark Goossens

Also present: Kara Vicalvi

Minutes: The minutes from the September 9, 2008 meeting were read. Bob made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Rick seconded. All in favor 3-0.

Bills: Reviewed and paid.

Summer program: The Board discussed an incident with Kara where a group of kids and their counselors left the Park on a field trip. Permission slips were given to parents per Kara. The Board was unaware that kids left the Park area. The Board feels that the Park, when closed is a safe zone and that all of the kids should stay on the Park grounds in the future. Larry asked for the signed permission slips to keep on file. Kara said that they were thrown out. Any trips off of the Park grounds will have to come through the Board first. Hikes on the grounds are fine if kept below the top of the hill and are in view of the fields. The Board has also requested that any incidents that occur during the summer program be reported to the Board. Kara brought to the Board's attention that there are areas of rotted wood on the playground, especially down where the triangle glider is. The Board will do a playground inspection at the next meeting. Kara suggested a discount for signing up for multiple weeks and possibly tiering the salaries of the counselors so that the more experience people are not earning the same pay as a first year counselors. Registration fees may be raised for next summer. The Board will come up with guidelines for the summer program. Larry will check with Wilbraham about on-line payments. Kara will look at other towns' programs and see what they have to offer as comparison.

Revolving Account: Bob and Deb spoke with the Accountant to get a better understanding of the law pertaining to our revolving account. A \$10,000 unreserved limit is allowed. Anything over that has to be earmarked and spent for that item. The Board will look into creating a line item account for the spray park to be allocated every year to take care of the opening, closing, maintenance, chemicals and a maintenance person.

Warrant Articles: Huck made a motion to submit the cost of a new shed for TWB estimated at \$3000 as an article on the town warrant. Rick seconded. All in favor 4-0. Rick will speak to Pam about the article tomorrow.

Other items for consideration: a used field machine possibly through RAH, a wireless sound system estimated at \$745 through our revolving account, a sprinkler system, loam, hydro seeding for the spray park partially or in whole through our revolving account and a maintenance person for the Park two hours/day at \$8/hour for 7 days/week for approximately 20 weeks at \$2300 through a spray park line item account.

Old Business:

Park Bridge Repairs – Will be discussed at the October 1st Lions Club meeting per John Flynn.

Sprinkler System for spray park area – Huck is working on pricing to install a sprinkler system around the spray park. The sand and weeds will have to be scraped off and loam brought in and possibly hydro seed the area. Sod would be too expensive.

New Business:

Cancer Fundraiser – Huck made a motion to donate two free sport registrations to be used in the silent auction at the cancer fundraiser to be held at the Hampden Country Club in October. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0.

Spray Park – A check was received from Sue Rauscher to be used for spray park expenses. The new timer unit is ready for installation. South Shore will set up a date.

Popcorn Machine Request – The Hampden Police Department will borrow the popcorn machine on October 11 for the National Night Out event at TWB. The Theater group will borrow the popcorn machine September 26-28 and October 3-5.

Huck made a motion to adjourn at 9:58pm. Bob seconded. All in favor 4-0.

Next meetings: October 14, 2008 at **6pm at the Park**
October 28, 2008 at 7:30pm

Submitted by Deborah House, Clerk

