

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
Special Meeting Minutes March 17, 2009
Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

Members Present: Larry Forrest, Huck House, Bob White and Mark Goossens.

Absent: Rick Kapinos

Also: Jay Ray, Jeremy Donnelly and Michael Weisse

This special meeting was held to interview two out of the three potential head coaches for the 7th/8th grade tri-town baseball teams. There will be two teams. The potential head coaches are Jeremy Donnelly, Michael Weisse and Rick Kapinos. Rick Kapinos was interviewed on March 10th.

Jeremy Donnelly

- Coached 4 years in town, 2 as head coach and 2 as assistant coach.
- Dedicated, spends as much time as possible with the kids.
- Spends extra time with kids that need a little more practice.
- Prepares for games the night before.
- Believes in leaving kids in the same position, not rotating around to other positions.
- He will push the kids that he feels can do more.
- Prefers 3 practices/week if field time is available.
- Personally played ball when he was younger, not in high school.
- Has an assistant in mind if chosen as the head coach.
- Prefers to be the head coach, not willing to be an assistant. Likes to run/organize the team.
- Does not ask the kids what position they would like to play. Watches them at practice and goes from there.
- Has followed the same kids as they move up in age groups for 4 years.

Michael Weisse

- Coached baseball 3 years as head coach and soccer for 5 years in town.
- Would like to have 3 practices/week in the pre-season.
- Tries to give the kids equal playing time. Every kid plays 3-4 innings.
- Personally played baseball through 8th grade, soccer through high school.
- Likes to move the kids to different positions to give them different opportunities. Catchers are established, if someone wants to try it, he lets them.
- Knows the kids, has moved up with them as they move to different age groups.
- Has a few assistants in mind if chosen as head coach. Believes 3-4 is good.
- No vacation plans – season goes into July.

The Board thanked Jeremy and Mike for coming in.

Huck made a motion to go into executive session at 7:43pm. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0.

Returned from executive session at 8:25pm

Baseball Overview: Jay reviewed the baseball budget. George Flanagan's expenses for the 2008 field work, maintenance and equipment were never paid. A check will be issued. Jay received donations of baseballs, new helmets and 7th/8th grade catcher's gear.

Jay's head coach recommendations are:

- Tball – Jay Ray, Joe Barbeau
- 1st/2nd grade – 4 teams
 - Art Ferrera
 - Joe Barbeau
 - Paul Hunter
 - Marty McQuade
- 3rd/4th grade – 3 teams
 - John Gurski
 - Tim Evans
 - Frank DiNoia
- 5th/6th grade – 2 teams
 - Rick Willis
 - Steve Carabetta
- 7th/8th grade – 2 teams
 - TBD

Huck made a motion to accept the recommendations and head coach list presented by Jay. Bob seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0.

Evaluations:

March 19 for 5th/6th graders

March 21 for 3rd/4th graders

March 22 for 7th/8th graders

Team drafts will take place after each session. A rank system will be used to ensure that the teams are equally split up.

CPR/1st Aid:

A CPR/1st Aid certification class will be set up for the coaches who need to be certified. New bags will be purchased for the first aid supplies that are given to each team. The bags will be decided upon at the next meeting.

Gym Schedule:

Bob will send Jay information on the school security systems so that he can inform any coaches using the gyms for indoor practices.

Fields:

March 28 & 29 the new bleachers will be moved into place. Larry will pickup tarps to put under the bleachers until cement pads can be poured.

The green monster wall should be done for the start of the season. RAH will fund this. 12' green vinyl will be used.

Jay will research the cost of moving the softball fence in.

TWB bull pens – dedicated area to warm up without injury to others passing by. RAH to fund.

Dugouts will be painted green.

Would like to remove the backstops at Green Meadows. Larry will speak with Deb Thompson as a courtesy.

Temporary green snow fence for Green Meadows jamboree.

Rent a slice seeder for the infield.

Clay delivery at each field. Huck will check with Noel

TWB shed – Bob has a quote of \$2800

Jay will run the summer baseball program again this year.
The All-star cookout is tentatively scheduled for June 13th at the Park.

Softball: Larry will not be the softball coordinator next year. The Stolar's will have access to the softball field to use for their team.

Huck made a motion to adjourn at 9:30pm. Mark seconded. All in favor and so voted 4-0.

Next meetings: March 24th at 7:30
April 14th

Submitted by Deborah House, Clerk