

PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, January 2, 2019

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Senior Center

Attendance

Present: Bryan Litz, Bill Scatolini, Jon Stogner, Michelle Pastore, Marc Atkin, CW Zimmer, Emilie Hisgen, Dave Trebbe

Special Guest: Shannon Melluzzo, Courtney Derosia, Lori Ordynowicz

I. Meeting Called To Order.

Meeting called to order at 5:06 PM by Mr. Scatolini

II. Minutes from Previous Meetings Approved and Accepted

Motion made by Mr. Zimmer to accept and approve revised October minutes, second by Mr. Atkin, all in favor

December minutes will be approved at the February meeting, sent out to members

III. Bills Submitted for Approval:

- a. T – Mobile = \$62.48

IV. Budget Report

- a. General Fund - 82% of the total fund has been spent to date, goal is to spend as little out of this fund so dept doesn't operate out of the red during the summer months. Goal of the dept.
- b. Revolving Fund - still waiting on water bill from the town. Usually around \$6000. Also waiting on MyRec account bill for the service for this registration fee.

V. Correspondence.

- a. Open Meeting Law - reminder sent out to board members via email to follow the open meeting law guidelines so we are not in violation.
- b. Green Community - Town of Wilbraham officially voted as a Green Community by the state

VI. Committee Reports.

- a. F.O.R. (Bryan Litz)
 - i. Hall of Fame Committee - Mrs. Pastore and Mr. Trebbe have volunteered to be on this committee.
- b. Community Preservation (C.W. Zimmer) - Ron received quote on storage building for rec maintenance option.
- c. Selectmen Liaison (Bill Scatolini) - Mr. Scatolini and Mr. Zimmer will meet with Town Hall to support new employee request for the department and stress the importance of this new position
- d. Open Space (Emilie Hisgen)
 - i. Survey - results sent to members, town library looking into putting a reading walking trail and the possibility of becoming a historical building.
- e. Sports Associations/Committees (Bryan Litz)

i. FYFA = 5:15pm Football gave an overview of the season for the Highs and Lows

- Full uniforms were ordered but were faulty all uniforms were returned and money credited back
- Coaches and board members became CPR & AED certified along with some concession stand volunteers
- Hosted August kick-off for pre-season SAFL
- Had a few coaching concerns that were handled in-house
- Bi Laws finalized and used during the season when needed to address concerns
- Hosted playoff game
- More volunteers needed to handle the case load, seeing a decline in volunteers, some would rather just pay the \$100 fee
- Sr and Pee Wee teams made the playoffs
- Bonfire prior to playoffs, great community involvement
- Lower volunteer rate (board concern) asking for 4-6 hours
- Gelled well with cheerleading group as part of a TEAM effort
- Be better about communicating with families about the work that is needed from start to finish especially on game days
- Stated they followed the rules and expectations in the FYFA and Rec agreement
- Be more consistent with practice times with more age levels practicing on same nights for money saving on fields and lights and parents knowing when their child has practice
- Lines of communication need to be made more clear between FYFA and rec board/department.
- Looking for revisions for Roles and Responsibilities for the 2019 season if FYFA stays under the rec umbrella, this would need to be made after the February Rec meeting
- If Rec Commission votes for football to stay under rec umbrella under the FYFA agreement, then football has all ownership and responsibility for the program. All concerns would need to be addressed by the FYFA Board
- Town Administrator advices that programs should either have 100% ownership when applicable so they have full responsibility and not on Rec.
- Rec Dept struggles with type of programs the department runs. Working on 5 year vision.
- Shannon recommends a consistent process is established between board and sports teams/associations. Better lines of communication.
- FYFA looking for answers to the questions that were sent out. Rec Board did not respond as they were waiting for a detailed report from FYFA that is detailed in last years minutes as a Season Update item. Also the Rec Board needed time to officially meet to address these questions.
- Football did not know the actual cost of running the program for 2018 but now has a better idea. Difficult to get a specific figure from Mr. Litz as many program budgets run together to pay for cost due to lack of town funding.
- Mr. Zimmer overviewed the FYFA concerns and the issues with questions surrounding rec and football moving forward.
- Mrs. Pastore stressed the time and commitment that all parents put forth along with rec commission members. FYFA has been around for 20 years with many individuals giving time for their kids to play football. These programs are not about the parents but about the kids. It's a shame that the parents feel entitled to a pat on the back over the kids. Social and physical aspects should be stressed for the kids and youth sports is about the players not the parents. Very difficult to be a selected volunteer and be addressed in the grocery store

- or at town events when the incorrect information is out and about in the community.
- Ron stated that the town budget is very small and most aspects are covered by revolving fund and that Mr. Litz does a great job using his budgets wisely to support all the programs and fields they oversee throughout the year.
 - FYFA is in limbo about how they move forward for upcoming season. Mr. Stogner recommended that FYFA move forward with their season as planned by their board for the upcoming 2019 season. Any changes would be addressed at the February meeting after hearing back from the town administrator.
 - Rec has put in a budget request for another employee, this decision should be decided upon late Jan. Mr. Litz meets with them Jan 23. All decisions on FYFA will be made after Mr. Litz receives word from the town pertaining to the employee request which is around \$50,000
 - Recommended by the board that any money spent by FYFA out of revolving account needs to be approved by Mr. Litz. This will allow for appropriate spending just like other sports follow in town.
 - Hold off on coaches until after Feb 7 meeting, recommended by rec board so they have an answer from the TA.

Girls Lax - staying

Boys Lax - leaving

Hiking Club - staying

Baseball - recommending transition process

FYFA - Decision made at the February meeting

VII. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting.

none at this time

VIII. Old Business.

- a. FY 20 Budget - Mr. Litz has submitted his budget with a \$50,000 employee request, this request will help with department work/overload. Looking for the \$10,000 to add to the \$15,000 to get us to the \$25,000 from last year, meeting with Fin Comm Jan 23 at 7pm at town hall.
- b. 3 Year Concession Stand Lease - send out bid to Pafumi's
- c. WPRD 5 Year Vision - tabled until February
- d. State Projects - this projects will be recommended
 - i. Dredging Pond
 - ii. Sidewalk
 - iii. Paving Parking Lot

IX. New Business.

- a. Brainard Park - survey will be sent out soon
- b. Ice Rink - Ron looked into another option but doesn't seem feasible. Could easily average over \$10,000 and put a major wear and tear on the fields at Spec Pond.

X. Adjournment.

Motion made by Mr. Scatolini to adjourn at 7:48pm