



TOWN OF HAMDEN

P **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

MINUTES: The Parks and Recreation Commission held a regularly scheduled meeting on November 9, 2010, at 5:30 P.M. in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room, Hamden Government Center, 2750 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Tad Watson, Chairman
Rich Leonardo, Vice Chairman
Michael McGarry
Sarah Morrill

Staff in Attendance: Frank Rizzuti, Director of Parks & Recreation
Peggy Craft, Clerk of the Commission

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Watson called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Watson asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the Minutes of the August 10, 2010 meeting. There were none, and Chairman Watson called for a motion to accept the Minutes as presented.

Commissioner Leonardo motioned to approve the Minutes of the August 10, 2010 meeting as presented Commissioner McGarry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Rizzuti distributed copies of a letter from Robert and Dawn Flanagan regarding a situation on Goebel Road. Mr. Rizzuti said this is not the obligation of the Recreation Department, it is now a Public Works issue since they now handle field and park maintenance. There was a discussion regarding who owns this property. Mr. Rizzuti said that the Town does not own it. It was owned by a group of realtors who have since abandoned it. A short discussion regarding this letter followed.

DEPARTMENT HEAD'S REPORT

Director Rizzuti presented the following information to the Commissioners:

Mr. Rizzuti discussed the Charter Revision Committee. Mr. Rizzuti is not sure how much can be changed in the Charter regarding whether this Commission will be changed to the Recreation Commission. Mr. McGarry asked if the recommendations of the Committee would have to go to the

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

Legislative Council. Mr. Rizzuti said he believes the revisions are supposed to be finished by April, and will go to the Council for approval. It will then go to the Public for a vote for or against the recommended revisions.

There was a discussion regarding how the maintenance of the fields is now handled. Ms. Morrill asked if there is a way to check to see how this is working since the change in supervision of the maintenance crew. Mr. Watson suggested that a representative from Public Works attend a meeting of this Commission to discuss how the field maintenance is being accomplished. Discussion regarding the fields continued.

There was also a discussion regarding the Ice Rink.

Commissioner Leonardo motioned to invite CAO Leng to a meeting to discuss the duties and future of this Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morrill and passed unanimously. It was decided that Commissioner McGarry will contact Mr. Leng regarding attending the next meeting.

Ms. Morrill said since there is still a Parks Department and a Recreation Department why can't there be an overseeing Commission covering both.

The three Recreation Supervisors are working on fall programs. Mr. Rizzuti added that they are doing a good job. They are working on non-sports programs such as arts and crafts and zumba, etc.

Mr. Rizzuti said he is still having issues with the baseball and soccer fields. Mr. McGarry asked about trash cans. Mr. Rizzuti said this has gone out to bid.

This year the Christmas ornament will be the New Middle School.

Mr. Rizzuti said the Fall Festival at Brooksvale was very successful. Mr. Rizzuti said the horseshoe pits are in.

Breakfast with Santa will be on December 4th. There will be two seatings, one at 9:00 AM and one at 11:00 AM. Mr. Rizzuti invited the Commissioners to attend.

Hamden Fathers Basketball has held signups. Mr. Leonardo said the number of kids signing up is up from last year. Mr. Leonardo also discussed the program and how signups are held, as well as the costs and how and where the games are held.

A Learn to Swim for Adults program will be held in November and December. There will be five classes, and the cost will be \$50.00.

The Departments is doing a budget projection on a month-to-month basis. Mr. Rizzuti and Coordinator Rick Gentile are working on this.

Dave DeMartino is doing a great job on programs for the disabled. He is planning a bowling program and an Autumn Fling Dance.

Mr. Rizzuti would like to review the Summer Camp rates at the next meeting. There was a discussion regarding the scholarship program. This program is now handled by the Community Services Department.

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

November 9, 2010

Page 3

A Day on Your Own in New York is planned on November 27th.

Mr. Watson asked about the adult basketball program. Mr. Rizzuti said that signups for this program are now being held.

Mr. Rizzuti shared a picture of himself and Park Maintenance Supervisor John Torgenson with Scott Julien Davie. Scott recently renovated and painted the dugouts at Legion Field as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Mr. Rizzuti and Mr. Torgenson presented Scott with a letter of appreciation for his work.

Mr. Rizzuti said if the Commissioners have any ideas for programs to feel free to contact him.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to come before the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to come before the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Commission and Chairman Watson called for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Leonardo motioned to adjourn. Commissioner McGarry seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Chairman Watson adjourned the meeting at 6:30 PM**

Submitted by:

Peggy Craft, Clerk of the Commission