

Community Services and Recreation

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members

From: Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation

Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting September 20th, 2010

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Frank Montagna at 5:29 p.m.

I. Attendance:

Commissioners Present: Al Centone, Frank Montagna, Michael Pomichter, Susan Puzycki.

Commissioners Absent: Joe Capucci, Suzanne Lewis, Mary Lou Stamp.

Staff Present :
Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation
Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works
Carla Pelliccio, Secretary

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

Michael Pomichter made a motion to accept the May 17, 2010 minutes, seconded by Al Centone.

III. Correspondence:

None.

IV. Director's Report:

Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation

Fall brochures and track flyers were distributed to the commissioners.

This year had a tremendous number of participants in the summer programs. The playground programs were held at Clintonville, Montowese and Ridge Road schools. Each site averaged nearly 100 children on a daily basis. The Day Camp program held at the Recreation Center accommodated an average of 60 children for each of the 6 weeks. The Little Rec'ers program hit the maximum number several weeks. The various sport camps were very popular including volleyball, softball, baseball and field hockey.

The "Music Under the Stars" concert series concluded on August 10, 2010. All concerts were well attended. The department has been receiving calls and comments praising the series. A special thanks to all corporate sponsors for their continued support. Also thanks to Police, Fire and Public Works for their assistance at each concert.

Swim lessons went very well this summer. 108 children took lessons during the week and 76 on Saturdays. After the summer programs concluded, Recreation went into their shut down schedule. The week of August 9th the pool was closed. Ms. Pettit was happy to report there were no major issues this

year. The pool was drained, an inspection of the tile, plugs and drain-all in good condition. Damaged tiles on the pool deck were replaced. The men's shower area was re-grouted. Typical maintenance that is done every August. A new diving board was installed.

The following two weeks the Recreation Center was cleaned from floor to ceiling. Ms. Pettit acknowledged Rich Gaudio, their maintenance man. The cleaning of the Pool and the Recreation Center is done solely by Rich, who does an amazing job.

Summer pool hours ended September 4th. Fall hours are now in effect.

Four hours were cut due to the budget. As of July 1st we closed Friday evenings (was 7-9pm) and Tuesdays and Thursdays we are open 6-8pm rather than 6-9pm. Friday evening was getting the least amount of swimmers. The goal was to make the least amount of impact on the public.

The track lights are on at the Mike Vanacore Field. Lights will be on Monday through Thursday evenings as weather permits, until Thanksgiving. An attendant monitors that proper foot attire is worn. No pets and all the other posted rules are adhered to.

Registration is underway for fall recreation and pool programs. Many programs will begin in the next week or so. Moppet Minders Nursery School, which is licensed by the State of CT Department of Public Health began on Sept. 8th and will continue through June.

North Haven High School girl's swim team began their season on September 1st (M-F: 2:30-5:00pm).

Hamden North Haven Swim team began their practices today (MWF 5-7/Sat 6:30-8:30 am.).

The annual Halloween Party is scheduled to take place on Friday, October 29th, 2010 from 4:30 – 6:00pm. There will be face painting, refreshments, pictures with the Great Pumpkin and entertainment. McDonald's of Washington Avenue is again co-sponsoring this event. The commissioners are cordially invited to attend.

The town has been approached by USA Elite Training LLC. It is a softball training company out of Durham. The owner is Jennifer Hapanowicz. They would like to host a softball college recruiting event in North Haven July 13-17th, Wednesday through Sunday. The goal of this recruiting tournament is to become a premier recruitment for players from all over the country to come here and be seen by top college coaches. The event would be like a carnival like atmosphere with food vendors, softball apparel and equipment. On Saturday evening there would be a benefit game between an all-star team from the tournament and the CT Brakettes.

80 games would be played, and an estimated 3000 people would be coming into North Haven, which would benefit hotels, restaurants and many other local businesses.

Fields to be used are Gateway, Grover Wyman, the High and Middle school fields. Ms. Pettit and Ms. Sadosky are currently working on the logistics of this event.

Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works

The Memorial Day Parade was held on May 29, 2010 and was very well attended and the weather was terrific for a parade.

The Annual Flag Day Memorial ceremony was held on the Town Green Sunday, June 13 between 12 noon And 2 p.m.

The annual High School Concert was held on the Town Green and was a very successful event.

The 2010 Summer Concert Series that started on June 29th – August 10, 2010, was very successful and every concert was very well attended. There were very few, if any, vendor related issues during the series.

Staff from Local 58 in the Public Works Department installed concrete pavers (donated by others) for the Town Green Dance Floor (25' by 20') in preparation for the 2010 Summer Concert Series.

Parks and Recreation Girls Softball concluded their successful season on July 28, 2010.

Adult Recreation Softball concluded their successful season on August 2, 2010.

Max Sinoway Baseball concluded their Spring season on July 26, 2010, and started their Fall Baseball schedule August 16, 2010. The Fall schedule continues through the end of October, 2010.

American Legion Juniors and American Legion teams continue to play Fall Baseball on Bailey Road Field through the end of October, 2010.

Scheduled North Haven Soccer Club for 2010 Season including Memorial, Rock Road and Ridge Road fields June 20, 2010. Fall soccer started August 16th and continues into November.

Scheduled North Haven Lacrosse Club for the 2010 Season including from April 1 – June 27, 2010.

Youth Football started July 31, 2010 and continues at this time on Vanacore Field and Gateway Fields.

Special Olympics was scheduled for the Town Pool and Pool events were held from June 11th – 13th, 2010. The event was extremely well received and there are ongoing discussions that the North Haven Pool may be utilized again for future events.

Scheduled Special Olympics at Green Acres School starting June 15, 2010 – Mondays and Wednesdays through September 1, 2010. Special Olympics Flag Football continues through November 14th also on Green Acres field.

Scheduled the Jimmy V Foundation for August 13, - 15, 2010 for all of Grover Wyman and Gateway Fields. The event was well attended and very successful.

On Memorial Field the annual soccer tournament was held and sponsored by the Festival of Angels for August 19 - 22, 2010. The Festival of Angels event was reported as one of the most successful held to date.

On Saturday, September 11, 2010, the Animal Haven Walk-a-Dog-Athon was held on the Town Green from 8:00 a.m. To 12 noon and was very well attended.

A Police Fund Raising Event was held at Pines Park on Sunday, June 13, 2010.

A West Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Party was held at Pines Park on Saturday, August 7, 2010.

The Pines Park was utilized on Saturday, September 11, 2010 for a family party and is reserved for another family party on Saturday, September 18, 2010.

V. Old Business:

Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation

Ms. Pettit commented on the success of the Special Olympics CT State Games that was hosted at the Walter J. Gawrych Community Pool on June 12th and 13th. An estimated 1,500 people attended this event. Great efforts and teamwork between Recreation, Public Works and the Police Department. The event went very smoothly. With the extreme success of the event, the Town has already been asked by Special Olympics CT to be the host again for next year's state games.

Regarding the Music Under the Stars Concert Series, Mr. Montagna complimented both Recreation and Public Works on their hard work and a job well done on another successful series again this year. Food drive efforts were a slow in the beginning of the series, but the collection efforts picked up by the end.

VI. New Business:

Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works

Discussions are ongoing regarding status of the Pine's Park and the whether to remove or relocate the skate park due to complaints regarding various parties, vandalism, etc. This is still an open-ended issue to be continued. 210 letters were sent to neighbors of this park. Currently it appears that the opinion is split 50/50 as far as those who want the park and those who do not.

VII. Public Participation:

None.

VIII. Adjournment:

Mr. Montagna asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Al Centone, seconded by Michael Pomichter. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 15th, 2010 at 5:30pm.