

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 18, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission was convened at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Robert Ferrigno (Presiding)	Kevin Bellows
Michael Travisano	Vin Lipinski
Richard Moore	Nancy Walsh
Lee Defusco	Nicholas Bragano
Marie Petitti	

Also,
Dmitri Paris, Parks Superintendent

Guests:

Erick Haakonsen, 4574 Madison Avenue, Indian Ledge Radio Control Club
Byron Campbell, 49 Woodlawn Drive, AYSO
Jim Fracker, 50 Harborside Drive, Milford, AYSO
Joe Foren, 6 Scott Lane, Pop Warner Football
Robby Barhpaga, 460 Edison Road, Cheetah Cricket League
Virginia Imri, 32 Ridgeview Avenue, Great Pumpkin Run
Ted Chase, 27 Frances Street, Trumbull Youth Lacrosse
Liz Parenzan, 26 Meadow View Drive, TRACK BMX
Doug Imri, 32 Ridgeview Avenue, Trumbull Little League and Babe Ruth League
Anthony Vinci, 40 Long Meadow Road, American Legion Teams
Mike Buswell, 22 Woodfield Drive, Trumbull Travel Baseball
Gene Cellini, 55 Gatehouse Road, Pop Warner Football (8:35 p.m.)

Public Comments:

Erik Haakonsen, Indian Ledge Radio Control Club:

The Club has been flying for 36 years. This year's request is same as previous years. They use open Indian Ledge Field #1 weekday mornings to 11:00 a.m. and Saturday and Sundays when available. They will have three racing events; March 9th, July 19th and August 16th from 8:30 to 5:00. One evening fly event. They use Madison Kaechele Field on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Their insurance is current (\$2 million per incident), Town is named additional insured and each member has additional insurance. New insurance policy March 1st will be mailed to Town

Byron Campbell and Jim Fracker, AYSO:

Distributed Spring Schedule of field requests. Will provide Certificate of Insurance on renewal date. Looking to use Kaechele 1/2/3 and Indian Ledge Turf field beginning April 12 through June 21st. Financials, current 501c3, Profit and Loss Statement, background checks policy (everyone needs to be cleared for field access; identified with hats, shirts, jackets), data sheets with names included in packet. They have two camps during the summer one in July and one in August as well as Spring Break Clinics on Indian Ledge Turf Field from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Trumbull United and AYSO work well together. They will join for camps combining certain age groups. Point Persons are Byron Campbell and Jim Fracker. Charge for uniforms is \$40, two shirts, socks, shorts (good grade, last until youth out grows his set).

Commissioner Lipinski questioned Profit and Loss Statement balance of \$2,900. Response: They still have upgrades to complete before end of current budget, ie. paint outside of building.

Joe Foren, Pop Warner Football:

Request field use beginning August, 2014. Presented general Information on Pop Warner Football and Cheerleading and list of field requests for Madison Middle School Football and baseball fields. In time for season they will present their rosters, schedule and new season Insurance Certificate holding harmless the Town and Board of Education.

Robby Barhpaga, Cheetah Cricket Club:

Presented their field use request for 2014 season with completed application for field use, team information, valid insurance certificate and tentative play and practice schedules. They play at the upper Madison Avenue field. They have 13 members and play six games in Trumbull and eight games out-of-town. (They won four out of ten games last year; hope to do better this season.) They spruce up field before games.

Commissioner Moore said he thinks it great to have started a cricket team in Trumbull.

Virginia Imri, Great Pumpkin Classic:

Date is October 19, 2014 from 7 a.m. to 12 Noon. Campers park at rear of Hillcrest. 1,000 attendees. They have three events:

- Kids Fun Run starts at 8:45 a.m. on Track.
- 2 Mile Health Walk starts at 9:30 a.m.
- 5K (or 4 Mile) run starts at 10 a.m. (last runner around 11:00 a.m.).
- They get health department clearance to serve food in High School Cafeteria.
- They partner with THS Scholarship Foundation, PTA Council, Trumbull Community Women and split scholarships between the four organizations.

Commissioner DeFusco commented that it's great to have children participate; he thinks this is a wonderful event for the town.

Ted Chase, President, Trumbull Youth Lacrosse:

Provided binder with annual spring request including 501c3 tax form and insurance certificates. Their request is same as last year. Rain-out is biggest problem; don't always have the ability to make-up game except on varsity or turf field, they defer to the high school program. New Girls Varsity coach may be using field later in the day which would impact their practices. They start April 1st if fields are ready through June 18th. They project 410/425 players (30/35% increase in three years). Noted that all are volunteer coaches, all players and board members are residents, background checks are by US Lacrosse, all trained certified coaches. This year they project approximately 410/420 players (375 last year), projecting 25 boys teams and 8 girls teams. Cost between \$200 to \$250 (boys travel higher). They provide a Sr. THS boy and girl scholarships every year. They donated their used equipment to the Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse program and provided a defibrillator to THS. This have a good relationship with the High School boys and girls coaches. One out of every ten kids play lacrosse; could grow to two out of ten. Ages are K through 8th grade. They are allowed to play other sports; House Program good for these rather than the travel program.

Liz Parenzan, Secretary, TRUMBULL TRACK BMX:

Schedule presented. She will return to the March meeting to provide Insurance Certificate, Financials, Tax Return, Background Checks and Roster of players and Officials. With approval, they begin their season in April through September. Upon question, she will provide information on possible Nationals Race request. They only sell candy, water and packaged items. Had about 100 riders last year with one-third Trumbull residents.

Chairman indicated that because of damage last year during their Nationals Race to the park entrance sign, any approval would be with accountability by their organization. (There is a policy in place for large events bond requirement.)

Doug Imri, Trumbull Little League and Babe Ruth:

Will present their tax returns and field maintenance contracts (Tarrantino), 501c3, insurance certificate, background checks prior to season begin. Season is April through July, then Fall Ball. T-Ball ages 5/12, softball 8/14. Schedules same as past years. They work with the Recreation Director to schedule in conjunction with our Recreation Program, Christian Heritage and St. Joseph H.S. Concessions are up to speed with health and insurance requirements.

Babe Ruth, over 13/18. Travel team has 200 kids. Play July through Sept/Oct.

Upon question, they haven't gotten score board up yet. The Press Box is up. They still need to bring in electricity.

Commissioner DeFusco questioned how far background checks go back...should be three/four years. Response – they will do better at checking back this season.

Anthony Vinci, American Legion Teams:

Need approximately 34 game dates on THS Varsity and Jr. Varsity fields to accommodate Senior and Junior teams (36 players). They need practice times usually on the JV field at THS. They would like some games under lights and would pay for use of lights. Two teams, Senior (17-19 years old) and Junior (15-17 years old) all Trumbull residents. Season is June through July (34 games); with Fall Baseball (27 game schedule, half home and half away) September to late October. Recreation Director has P&L, Insurance, Tax Return. Players come up through the system and are selected from Little League and Babe Ruth League.

Mike Buswell, Trumbull Travel Baseball:

Originally the American Legion Travel Program. They typically play on Saturdays and Sundays when Little League doesn't play. All play Trumbull Little League as well, ages 9/12. They try to keep them playing in the Town programs. They have 50 players. Two years ago had one team, project up to four teams now. They play 20 games; in the past, North Madison for practice and Nothnagle field for games. All coaches are paid. Their biggest competition is the outside programs. Parents pay a lot of money to play on these teams.

Commissioner DeFusco noted that their cooperation with Trumbull Little League has been excellent.

MOTION by Mrs. Walsh, second Mr. Moore, unanimously passed to close Public Comments and return to the order of the Agenda.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second Mr. DeFusco, unanimously passed approving the minutes of the January 13, 2014 meeting as distributed.

Chairman introduced and welcomed new Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Dr. Michael Travisano.

Old Business:

- Superintendent reported on the status of Stickers:
- Arrangement with a printer to get the stickers in-hand as quickly as possible.
- Fee will cover cost of stickers.
- Same image as current sticker.
- Exterior sticker (self destructs on peel-off). Cannot be moved to a new car; present remnants for new sticker issue.
- Numerical designation rather than license plate number on sticker.
- Parking ticket is a straight-out violation; \$25 fine processed through Police Department.

Budget:

Superintendent stated:

- Budget presented is less by 2 percent in the 402 and 803 accounts (tools, fertilizer, chemicals for pools.)
- Labor contracts are still in negotiations.
- No overtime increase to cover the potential for employees Union-option for over-time pay rather than time-off.
- Capital Improvements include:
 - Replacement for rack-body landscape equipment transport truck #235.
 - Snowblower replacement (8 years old, rusted frame).
 - Ranger Transport Vehicle for interior Trail System. Small ATV Gator with a cab for year-round access to trail system.
 - Five-year amortization, no increase in budget because of items going-off payment schedule.
- Tree Warden budget increased by \$12,000 for replanting program. Town attempting to gain US Forestry Tree-City Program designation.
- Recreation Budget has a cut in the part-time account which is of concern to the Superintendent because the sticker fee will only cover the sticker distribution leaving the remainder of the part-time needs with less coverage.

Chairman questioned how do we prioritize work responsibilities when there are requests for work to be accomplished?

Superintendent said his department manages what we control on a daily and seasonal basis...ie. grass, pools, safety and health issues. Emergency projects develop with equipment and facilities. Unplanned projects ie. entire roof-ice fell down at Senior Center and pulverized shrubs which will need to be replaced this spring. As time permits, he works in projects. We need just to inform him of any desired work or project, and he will address it. He has been working into his schedule the historic barn project for three years now.

Superintendent noted that late last fall in November with field use still in process, the non-winterized restrooms at Indian Ledge developed burst pipes. He requested the Commission consider specific opening and closing dates so we don't experience this problem again.

Comments:

- Commissioner Moore: PortaJohns can be obtained for \$100 a month with weekly cleanouts. Leagues should order these if they need facilities for a couple weeks.
- Commissioner Lipinski: We should close right after Halloween, end of October.
- Commissioner Bragano: October 31 seems reasonable and open by mid April.
- Commissioner Petitti: If league needs it earlier, they should bring portajohn in. If the problem is ours, we bring it in.
- Commissioner DeFusco: Dates are fine, just get the word out to the leagues.
- Commissioner Walsh: April 15th and October 31st fine.
- Commissioner Bellows: Open as soon as possible with April 15th target date.
- Commissioner Travisano: Dates okay.
- Commissioner Moore: Don't get a hard-freeze as late as April 15th so these are good guide-line dates.

MOTION by Mr. Lipinski, second by Mr. Moore, unanimously passed that Superintendent will use his best efforts to have lavatories open no later than April 15th and closed October 31st of each year with proper notice given to organizations who use those facilities by those dates.

Commissioner Lipinski noted that the Great Oak Park sign was hit by a tree in storm 'Sandy' and needs repair.

Gene Cellini, Pop Warner Football, arrived at 8:35 p.m. because of a late train from New York. Briefly spoke about Babe Ruth's fall request ensuring we would have budget, P&L, Insurance, and rosters in March or April. There is a fall season. He brought to the Commission's attention that there has been a petition circulated for portable lights at Madison Middle School. The Petition was mentioned to the First Selectman at the Babe Ruth Banquet several weeks ago.

Chairman noted that when we had the request for lights at Unity park there were serious concerns by neighbors to the park which needed to be addressed, ie. lights out by 9:00 p.m. and loudspeaker noise controls. Chairman said they should bring their request to this Commission for discussion and action.

Superintendent's Report:

- Reiterated that the sledding hill is closed at Twin Brooks Park because of Meadow remediation. (Mr. Moore said he fielded quite a few calls from residents on the closed area and explained the freshly planted area.)
- Clearing show.

Chairman said now that we have a full membership on the Commission, we will assign Commissioners to our various sub-committees by next month.

Facilities Use Requests:

MOTION by Mr. DeFusco, second by Mr. Moore, unanimously passed to approve Little League request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Mr. Bragano, second by Mrs. Petitti, unanimously passed to approve Babe Ruth League request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Mrs. Walsh, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to approve the Indian Ledge Radio Control Club request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Dr. Travisano, second by Mr. Lipinski, unanimously passed to approve the AYSO request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Mr. Moore, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to approve Trumbull Lacrosse request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Mr. DeFusco, second by Mrs. Walsh, unanimously passed to approve Trumbull Travel Baseball request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Mrs. Petitti, second by Mr. Bragano, unanimously passed to approve the Great Pumpkin Classic at THS campus and Hillcrest parking, Sunday, October 19, 2014 from 7:00 a.m. to 12 Noon subject to Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Moore, unanimously passed to approve the Cheetah Cricket Club request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

Leagues needing to complete Facilities Use Policy requirements by our March meeting:

- Trumbull United Soccer
- American Legion
- TRACK BMX
- Pop Warner
- Field Hockey
- Pisces

MOTION to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. by Mr. DeFusco, second by Mr. Bragano, unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe
Clerical Adm. Assistant

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