

PERINTON RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 22, 2008

PRESENT: Vice Chair Al Chesonis, Advisory Board Members Jayne LaFay, Kevin Ruster, Dave Schaeffer, and Commissioner of Recreation and Parks Jim Donahue.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the April 24, 2008 minutes by Board member Jayne LaFay, seconded by Board member Dave Schaeffer; amended minutes approved.

COMMISIONER DONAHUE'S REPORT

Chair Resignation Letter

The Town Supervisor received a letter from Advisory Board Chair Mark Gwaltney this week. The letter stated that Mark is resigning his position on the Advisory Board. The Town Supervisor and Commissioner each sent Mark a thank you letter for his years of dedicated service. The Town Supervisor will appoint a new chair and a new member to the board.

Staff Update

Laura Silins is going on a leave of absence at the end of the week. It is estimated she will be on leave for maternity reasons for six to eight weeks.

Security System Upgrade

The Town Board approved an upgrade to our security system, adding cameras and replacing the digital taping unit. The estimated cost is \$8,600 and the money is in the current budget.

Radios and Pagers

The Town is changing its radio system to accommodate the new half band width standard. The Town Board approved a request from Recreation and Parks for \$22,624 to upgrade our antenna, as well as base and mobile radios. The Department of Public Works is also doing an upgrade of their equipment. Monroe County has replaced its paging system. Town staff use pagers that are a part of this system. The Town Board approved a replacement paging system which included our department's pagers.

Financial Update

The deposit to the supervisor for May was \$ 168,701.95. The year to date income is down \$24,983.27.

Master Plan Update

The master plan should be finalized and distributed in May. A public meeting should be scheduled in May or June.

Homearama

Perinton will be the site of Homearama in June 2008. The model homes will be built in Magnolia Manor off Macedon Center Road near Wakeman Road. The department is working with the Supervisor's office to create a display for the Town.

Volunteer Board Dinner

The dinner is scheduled for May 29. Information was sent to each volunteer and a copy is in tonight's packet. Please RSVP to Barb Clay.

Natural Gas Contract

We are contracting with Energetix to provide natural gas through the Monroe County Group contact effective June 21. According to our town finance officer says we will probably not save any money using this program. There are two advantages however. First, we will not have to bid this. Since the utilities were deregulated, natural gas is like any other commodity. If we buy more

than \$10,000 in a year, we need to open it to competitive bidding. By joining the County's group, they handle this for us. We would have to hire a consultant to do this for us if we did not have this option. Secondly, the County uses long term contracts which are intended to smooth out fluctuations in costs. We will benefit when prices increase sharply, if they fall rapidly we will miss out on that decline, but overall we should experience more stability in pricing.

DIRECTOR MORGAN'S REPORT

Activities in the parks are in full swing at this point. Softball, soccer and tennis are utilizing the fields and courts seven days a week. Picnic shelter use has also picked up with the good weather and the graduation season upon us and the playgrounds are very busy. The lawns all continue to grow almost faster than we can keep up with the mowing but overall the parks are looking quite good.

All parks staff have renewed their first aid, CPR and AED training for another year.

Katie Hart who has been with us full time for two and a half years and seasonally since 2002, has left the town to pursue a new career with an environmental monitoring firm in Rochester. Unfortunately, this leaves us short a certified playground safety inspector and pesticide applicator in the future.

Rotary has discontinued their annual antique show at Perinton Park. Last year was the 46th year of coordinating the shows at the park.

The tennis courts at Egypt Park and Kreag Road Park have been professionally power washed which has greatly improved their appearance and should improve safety of play.

A 2008 Chevrolet Impala has been purchased and delivered via the New York State contract which will be the vehicle for Jeff Myers to drive.

Several items were consigned to the annual municipal auction in Palmyra this year and the department has realized a total of \$19,683 from the sale. This money will be deposited to the Capital Reserve Account for Parks Equipment. The large dollar items sold were a 1997 Toro mower for \$6250, 2003 Chevrolet Malibu for \$4500 and 2002 Chevrolet pickup for \$9000.

Fairport Municipal Commission has once again provided the parks department with trees for planting in the town. Trees this year included forty Siberian spruce and six crab apples and are greatly appreciated.

The Town Clerk and Director of Parks conducted a sealed bid opening this morning for a new softball infield grooming machine. Three companies responded with two providing bids. The Jacobsen machine from S.V.Moffett was the lone bidder meeting the bid specifications. A recommendation will be sent to the town board for their May 28, 2008 meeting.

DIRECTOR MYERS' REPORT

- I. Recreation Programs.
 - A. RECTRAC – Rec Facts.
 - 1. Spring 2008 registration currently at \$177,821. There are 4,436 participants enrolled in 323 classes.
 - 2. Increase of \$13,743 and 412 participants since April report.
 - 3. ~\$3,739 less than spring 2007, but difference is decreasing every day.

- B. Special Events.
 1. "Family Orienteering" returns on Sunday, June 1 at 1pm. 99 total participants enrolled, (27 families).
 2. Gazebo Concert Series begins on Thursday, June 5th with the Perinton Concert Band.
 3. Perennial Flower Swap at Perinton Park Shelter on Saturday, June 14th, 11am.
- II. Facility Usage.
 - A. PCC Room and/or Gymnasium Rentals – 2008.
 1. Currently at 177 reservations for \$22,081.00.
 - B. Outdoor fields.
 1. Fairport Classic Lacrosse Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 14th, and will utilize six athletic fields at Center Park, as well as the Picnic Shelter and Concession Stand. This tournament draws teams from across New York State.
- III. Department News
 - A. Diane Riesenberger injury update

Diane returned to half days on Monday, May 12th, and will return to full days on Tuesday, May, 27th. Credit goes out to Diane for staying on top of her responsibilities throughout the disability period, via email and voicemail access, as well as Jeff Nutting, for assisting with the playground program in her absence, and many part time staff members who took over coordination of other programs that Diane regularly oversees. We are very glad to have Di back, and to have such a strong support network in challenging times.
 - B. Promotion of Department and Programs
 1. Jim is coordinating with Wegmans to have Jeff Nutting attend the Wegmans LPGA as a representative of the Town. Wegmans is staffing a tent to promote their "Eat Well, Live Well" Campaign, and have invited municipalities to set up an informational display in their booth.
- IV. Center Stage
 - A. We have added Clearwire as a sponsor. They will also be our official on-site weather reporters.
 - B. Sponsorship money is coming in as scheduled.
 - C. All major components have been ordered and confirmed, such as golf carts, storage and sound.
 - D. We are recruiting new volunteers.

CENTER STAGE UPDATE

Jayne LaFay is currently seeking to recruit volunteers for the Center Stage committee. Teen Program Coordinator, Julie Eble has four teens interested in working on the committee.

TEEN CENTER UPDATE

With the success of the Unplugged events at the Teen Center, Jayne LaFay and Julie Eble are trying to put together an event to take place in August.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Andrea of Trowbridge and Wolfe is sending a full draft of the Master Plan incorporating all changes to date. Commissioner Donahue will send an electronic document to all committee members and chairs for review and input within the next few days.

AQUATIC PROGRAMMING

Commissioner Donahue stated that the aquatics staff has done a great job instructing and maintaining their training skills. Once Laura Silins returns from maternity leave, the staff will meet with the Advisory Board to make a thorough presentation.

During the last three years there has been very little change in aquatic programming revenues. Attendance is down from when the center originally opened and comments have been made that it is too expensive to bring a family here to swim. Our staff is brain storming to come up with options to consider that will better meet the needs of families and to make use of the facility during non-peak times. Under consideration at this time is a plan to offer a monthly family pass, but to package it differently from the YMCA (no membership fee). Swim passes have been donated to organizations to give as gifts hoping to market the aquatics center.

Vice Chair Chesonis and Advisory Board member Ruster recommended the Recreation Department contact the communities visited prior to construction of the aquatic facility to determine what "growing pains" they may have experienced. They also recommended reaching out to neighboring towns and businesses to "kick in money" to defray the cost of individual use by their residents or employees. The staff might solicit business from daycares in neighboring towns offering reasonable rates during non-peak use times.

AROUND THE TABLE

All present at the meeting were in agreement that the minutes should reflect the Advisory Board's thanks and gratitude to Mark Gwaltney for his years of service, as well as his energy and advocacy for the residents of the Town of Perinton.

Jayne LaFay commented that the current Tourism and Recreation Guide featured the Gazebo series, but there was nothing on the Center Stage events. Commissioner Donahue stated that Janelle Reed submits press releases every week to the D&C and Post; but admits the exposure is minimal.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm. The next Advisory Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 26, 2008 at the Perinton Community Center, Room 211 at 7:00pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie C. Kayser
Secretary