

PERINTON RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2009

PRESENT: Chair Al Chesonis, Advisory Board Members Mike Coppola, Jayne LaFay, Kevin Ruster, Dave Schaeffer, Stephen VanVreede, Commissioner of Recreation and Parks Jim Donahue and Director of Parks Stacey Estrich.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the August 27, 2009 minutes by Board member Mike Coppola, seconded by Board member Dave Schaeffer; minutes approved.

COMMISSIONER DONAHUE'S REPORT

Egypt Park Progress

The land survey for Egypt Park was completed by Steve Schoen. The survey was sent to Trowbridge and Wolf for them to begin preliminary park design. Trowbridge has requested some additional information be added to the survey. This request is pending.

Humane Society Request

The Humane Society has requested some of their staff who are non-residents be provided with the resident rate for pool use. This request is under consideration. Input is being sought from advisory board members. After discussion of the request, the entire Advisory Board approved a resident rate for pool use to the Humane Society full time staff.

Budget Schedule

The 2010 town budget draft has been filed with the Clerk's office. The next three town board meetings September 23, October 14 and October 28 will include an informal presentation on the budget, a formal budget hearing, and eventually an adoption of a final budget.

Financial Update

The deposit to the Supervisor for September was \$ 90,205.44. This is \$33,831.11 behind last year to date deposit. The year to date income is down, however, year to date expenses are also down slightly.

Kreag Road Paving Bid

The Town Board rejected the bid for the parking lot milling and paving. Only one bid was received and the cost was much more than we budgeted for the project. The town staff will make some improvements this fall and we will purchase curbing off Monroe County contract. We will look at the milling and paving again next year.

Personnel Update

Parks Director Stacey Estrich returned to work this week part time and will begin full time work next week. Jeff Cooper's last day with the Parks division is October 2 or sooner. Jeff resigned his position and is moving out of the area. The open laborer position has been posted internally and there are several viable candidates. Interviews will begin within the next week.

Pedestrian Bridge Update

As reported at the last meeting of the Advisory Board the pedestrian bridge over the canal at Cobb's lane has been delayed into 2010

DIRECTOR MYERS' REPORT

- I. Recreation Programs.
 - A. RECTRAC – Rec Facts.

1. Fall 2009 registration currently at \$171, 505. There are 3,340 participants enrolled in 339 classes. Revenue shows an increase of ~\$41,398 from 4 weeks ago.
 2. Still short \$42,394 short of last year end of Fall Season.
 - B. Preschooler and Parent Drop-In Gym starts up again October 6.
 - C. Detours After School Program began three weeks ago. Enrollment is full and a waitlist has been established. The participants will be working on a float for the homecoming parade.
 - D. Passport to Wellness update:
 - Passports handed out: 2600
 - Six trails completed: 213
 - Ten trails completed: 130
- II. Facility Usage.
- A. PCC Room and/or Gymnasium Rentals – 2009.
 1. Currently at 231 reservations for \$38,032.00.
 2. 61.34% of budgeted revenue.
 - B. We have 6 scheduled Flu Shot Clinics scheduled here: 10/7, 10/8, 10/16, 10/23, 10/26, 11/5. These clinics are for “Seasonal Flu”. Once the H1N1 (Swine) Flu vaccine becomes available, additional clinics will be added for that series.
- III. Spotlight on Senior Citizen Programming
- A. Senior Citizen trip to the Thousand Islands Region: 42 seniors departed for Alexandria Bay at 8am on Tuesday, 9/15. Trip included: Lunch at “Windows by the Bay”, cruise on “Uncle Sam Boat Tours”, admission to Boldt Castle and roundtrip transportation on a motor coach. Excellent feedback from a number of participants.
 - B. Upcoming trips to Hershey, Pennsylvania; Seneca Niagara Casino.
 - C. Silver Sneakers program doing very well. (Partnership with MVP Healthcare).
 - D. Senior Volunteer Luncheon scheduled for October 30th, at noon.
 - E. September and October Calendars provided for your review.
- IV. Center Stage: The season had a great ending with the best weather all year. There were not many complaints about the lack of fireworks. Attendance for the last show was about 3,500 spectators. The department will attempt to get some of our former sponsors to return in 2010. The committee will meet in a few weeks to evaluate the 2009 season, and begin planning 2010.
- V. I will be attending the NRPA National Congress and Exposition from 10/13 to 10/16. This year’s event is in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- VI. Intern to attend next Advisory Board meeting.
- A. Nichole Fabrizio will attend the October 22nd meeting, and provide a brief description of her activities to that point.

Questions were asked by Chair Chesonis as to whether there is concern about the decline of income and if special events might be considered to help offset losses; and how successful the on line registration has been. Commissioner Donahue informed the board that special events are typically not profitable and need to be presented in the seasonal brochure to promote interest, and a new spinning class is under consideration to be added to the winter brochure. On line registration is proceeding as planned allowing for all related aspects to be worked out. It may take up to a year till it is optimally operational.

DIRECTOR ESTRICH'S REPORT

Director Estrich expressed her thanks to Commissioner Donahue for his support while on maternity leave, and she also complimented the entire Parks staff for the great job they did during her absence.

1. Community Projects
 - a. Five Eagle Scout Projects for this summer are completed. Four new projects are pending at Harts Woods, Kreag Road Park and Garnsey Arboretum. This totals about 10 Eagle Scout projects for 2009 benefiting the Town parks and trail systems. A press release was sent out in August along with pictures. Many of the photographs are on the Town's website.
2. General
 - a. 80% of park painting projects were completed by seasonal staff. Bob Ellis headed projects.
 - b. Landscape projects completed at White Brook, and Community Center entrance. The Parks Operation Center is getting a face lift this week.
 - c. Fall Shut Down
 - i. Tennis courts and lights will be closing in a few weeks. We will keep Perinton and Fellows Road Park open as long as possible to extend tennis play. Volleyball nets will also be stored for the winter.
 - ii. Water will be turned off and restrooms closed towards the middle to end of October. Park building restrooms will remain open year round.
3. Parks
 - a. Kreag Road Park
 - i. Parking lot improvements have begun. Only one bid was reviewed and denied. Sewer lines from the restroom are connected with drainage improvements being worked on currently. New concrete curbing is planned for this fall and paving by DPW next spring.
 - b. Spring Lake Park
 - i. Bank Stabilization project has made progress and is on schedule. Informational signs are installed. Abby mailed an educational letter to area schools to reach out. Abby was a tremendous help. She is continually updated on the progress. During October transplanting of native plant material will commence. Parks is applying for a DEC grant application due October 16th (50-50 match). Press Release is being prepared by Kathy Goodrich.
 - c. Fellows Road Park
 - i. The new playground is being installed Monday Sept. 28th with estimated completion on Friday Oct. 2nd. The safety surface will begin the following week. An opening ceremony will be planned to celebrate the new addition.
 - d. Perinton Park
 - i. New environmental paving project is installed under the sway swing.
 - e. Potter Park
 - i. Lion's Den roof and gutters completed in August.

A request was made by Chair Al Chesonis for Stacey to provide a state of the Parks summary for year end to bring the Advisory Board up to date on the goals /objectives handed on to her, how she feels about things thus far and what vision she has for Parks in the future. A similar summary from Director Myers would also be a great tool for use by the board going forward.

AROUND THE TABLE

"A finely tuned machine" was the phrase used by Dave Schaeffer to describe how well the Parks Department operated while Director Estrich was on leave. Also, kudos were directed to the Parks Department on the completion of the footbridge at the Garnsey Arboretum. The Passport to Wellness program has been a huge success with nearly 5,000 miles hiked on the trails in Perinton. This information will be useful to promote the Recreation and Parks Department in the future.

Kevin Ruster expressed congratulations to Jayne LaFay for a job well done with Center Stage and the Teen Center programs. Chair Chesonis also recommended an Advisory Board meeting be held at the Teen Center to meet the Teen Center Coordinator Julie Eble and observe programming in progress. Stacey was welcomed back by Kevin and complimented on what a great job she has done so far. It was brought to the attention of the board that Director Myers might explore the idea of capitalizing on the proximity of the canal to Perinton Park for event programming as the Towns of Macedon and Palmyra have done.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. A tentative date of **Thursday, October 22 at 7:00pm at the Perinton Community Center in room 211** has been set for the next Advisory Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie C. Kayser
Secretary