

PERINTON RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 28, 2008

PRESENT: Advisory Board Chair Al Chesonis, Board members, Mike Coppola, Jayne LaFay, Kevin Ruster, Dave Schaeffer, Commissioner of Recreation and Parks James Donahue, and Recreation Director Jeff Myers.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes by Board member Kevin Ruster, and seconded by Board member Dave Schaeffer; minutes approved.

GUESTS: Recreation and Parks Department Teen Program Coordinator Julie Eble, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis O'Donnell, Megan O'Donnell (Award Recipient), and friends Stephanie Wagner, Beth and Sharayah Werner.

RECOGNITION OF MEGAN O'DONNELL

Teen Program Coordinator Julie Eble shared her letter of recommendation nominating Megan O'Donnell for the Youth Community Leader Award. She serves on the Teen Advisory Board, the Teen/Senior Citizen Committee, the Army Adoption Community Service Project and the Community Service Volunteer Committee. Commissioner Donahue thanked her on behalf of the Advisory Board and community and presented her with gift certificates.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The topic of volunteer opportunities was brought up for discussion following Megan's recognition. It was suggested that volunteer opportunities be posted on the web site. Crescent Trail projects are often times executed by Boy Scouts, so a liaison from the Scouts to Dave Schaeffer may better facilitate matching projects to the interest and ability of community service applicants.

Trail Master Dave Schaeffer, on behalf of the Crescent Trail Association, wished to thank the Parks Department and DPW for their support in weekly trail maintenance by providing a vehicle and trailer that can be transported to multiple locations for the work party volunteers.

COMMISSIONER DONAHUE'S REPORT

Youth Service Community Award

Julie Eble nominated Megan O'Donnell one of our teen center attendees and volunteers for the Youth Voice, One Vision Youth Community Leader Award. We were notified that Megan received the award on August 14. The Advisory Board is recognizing Megan's efforts and positive impact at tonight's meeting.

The New York State Canal Conference

The conference is being held at Grand Island, NY from October 5-7. The conference is offering a variety of educational sessions and informational tours. Advisory Board member Kevin Ruster has agreed to attend the conference and represent the Town of Perinton. Kevin will provide a report after the conference.

Hart's Woods Plaque

The Department will be receiving a bronze plaque for Hart's Woods from the National Park Service. The plaque will be posted at Hart's Woods reminding the public that Hart's Woods is a registered National Natural Landmark.

Red Wing/Playground Attendance Award

Our playground program has won the award for the largest summer camp attendance at a Rochester Red Wing game yet again. This is the third straight year the Town has won the award.

PCC/Aquatics Center Update

The PCC/Aquatics Center is going through a major cleaning and repair effort this week. The department typically shuts down most of the building to do annual repairs and cleaning. Among items being repaired are the gym and aerobic room floor refinishing, family locker room showers replaced, all new strength equipment and some new cardio equipment, pool area cleaning, light bulb replacements and pool sound baffle reattachment. The carpet in the two pre school rooms was also replaced last week. Denis Gurnett and Mike Sozio are leading the effort.

Staff Update

Bonnie Nohe announced her retirement in July. She will retire at the end of October. The Commissioner is working on a staffing replacement plan.

Financial Update

The deposit to the supervisor for July was \$195,113.31. The year to date income is down \$1,034.59.

Master Plan Update

The draft master plan was finalized and distributed to the Advisory Board, Town Board, and other volunteer board members as deemed appropriate. Copies are available for the public to view at the Recreation and Parks Department and Town Clerk’s Office. Electronic copies of the document are also available on the Town’s web site. A public meeting is set for Wed., Sept.17 at 7:00 pm.

2009 Budget

The preliminary budget was presented to the Town Supervisor. The Town Board will review the submission.

Mid Year Purchase

The department received permission to bid a new mid-size SUV vehicle to replace the vehicle currently driven by the Commissioner. The other request for a vehicle replacement was put on hold pending a review of long term equipment needs.

Center Stage

The final center stage concert is scheduled for September 7 with a rain date of September 14. The weather has not cooperated very well this year but Jeff Nutting, staff and volunteers have done an outstanding job.

Tennis Court Recoating Bid

The department received approval from the Town Board to bid tennis court surface recoating for the courts at Potter Park and Perinton Park. The recoating is part of our goals for this year.

DIRECTOR MYERS’ REPORT

- I. Recreation Programs.
 - A. RECTRAC – Rec Facts.
 - 1. Fall 2008 registration currently at \$150, 818. There are 3,410 participants enrolled in 380 classes. This is slightly ahead of last year at this time.
 - 2. Registration expected to increase slightly as parents get school aged kids back into their routine, and then they will determine what activities they can add in.
 - 3. Reminders to register placed on tables in Community Center lobby.

- B. Fall programming begins week after Labor Day.
- II. Facility Usage.
- A. PCC Room and/or Gymnasium Rentals – 2008.
 - 1. Currently at 253 reservations for \$36,656.00.
 - 2. 61.09% of budgeted revenue.
 - 3. Also slightly ahead of last year at this time.
 - B. Annual Maintenance Shutdown.
 - 1. Gymnasium ceiling and floor maintenance, 8/25 – 8/29.
 - 2. Aquatics area, 8/25 – 9/2.
 - 3. Work also being done in locker rooms.
 - 4. New strength and cardio equipment arrived 8/25, installed 8/26-28.
 - C. Monroe County Board of Elections Inspectors' Training this Wednesday and Thursday.
 - D. Teen Center set for new year of programming.
 - E. Potter Park to be utilized by Fairport Village Partnership for afternoon/evening event to include concert, outdoor movie, inflatable obstacle course and food vendors. Event to take place Saturday, 9/6.
- III. Other Program Notables
- A. Thank you to the Parks Department for support during Summer Playground Program and Gazebo Concert Series. They transported chairs and other necessary equipment to various locations.
 - B. Bright Futures: A program extension to our "Better Together" camp. It is for children over 13 years of age with special needs. This program taught the participants many life skills. It included field trips to a bank, grocery store, a farm to learn about nutrition, and culminated with a lunch at Olive Garden. It was a great success with many compliments and thanks from the participants and parents.
 - C. Center Stage has only one concert remaining, 9/7. Fireworks following show. Attendance numbers for recent shows are as follows:
 - 7/27 – RPO Brass Quintet/Marimba Band: 1,300
 - 8/3 – Timepiece w/ Bill Tiberio: 1,500
 - 8/10 – 78 RPM: show canceled due to weather.
 - 8/17 – Nik & the Nice Guys: 4,000
 - 8/24 – Smugtowntown Stompers: 800 (ended early due to weather).
 - D. Two articles describing collaborations between school districts, parks and recreation agencies, and private sources of funding, to encourage and enhance outdoor learning environments.
- IV. Intern to join staff
- A. Melanie Oyer began her 15 week internship with PRP on Monday.
 - B. She is a senior at SUNY Brockport in the Recreation and Leisure Studies program.
 - C. She will experience first-hand all of the facets of the recreation and parks department operation.

DIRECTOR MORGAN'S REPORT

Summerfest on Sunday, July 27th was once again a very successful event at Perinton Park coordinated by Barb Clay and our department. In all it was a busy weekend at the park as the Perinton Chamber of Commerce sponsored the annual Carp Fest fishing tournament on the canal the Saturday prior to Summerfest.

Eagle Scout candidate Kyle Stroh completed his project of sanding and staining both the fishing pier and canoe launch at Perinton Park. The work came out very well and was completed just in time for the Summerfest celebration which certainly enhanced the look of the park. We hope to have another scout complete a similar project on the transient boat dock to have all the docks redone this year.

During the course of the year we usually have several scout projects that benefit both the parks as well as the scout. Other projects in the works for this year are trail improvements at the Beechwoods and Center Park, a bluebird trail at White Brook Nature Area and bat houses at White Brook.

As the summer wraps up we have started aeration and fertilization of the athletic fields. After a dry start to the year, rainfall has been above average and the grass is growing quite vigorously for this time of the year. Currently we are almost on the usual spring mowing schedule to keep up with the fast growth of the turf. While we concentrate on the athletic fields presently, we will begin work on the remainder of the lawn areas in September.

While the lawn areas continue to grow rapidly, the majority of our summer seasonal work force has returned to college. This creates an especially hectic fall season with softball, soccer, cross country and football seasons all gearing up at the same time.

A new 2008 infield grooming machine was delivered to the parks in July. The machine will be used in the daily preparation of the softball infields when the department's league play is scheduled.

BUDGET UPDATE

With the recent increase in Fairport Electric fees, Commissioner Donahue stated the utilities portion of the new budget may need to be increased.

MASTER PLAN

Dave Schaeffer mentioned the following items should be updated on the draft copy.

- Photo credits should be deleted
- Add a narrative on Howell Road (This is already on park side)
- Park names be added on certain maps

Commissioner Donahue thanked Dave Schaeffer for his thorough review and recommendations to the draft Master Plan. Any thoughts, questions or suggested changes from Advisory Board members should be forwarded to Jim Donahue as soon as possible.

Presentation of the Master Plan will take place at a public meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at 7pm. A tentative agenda has been established. Copies of the Master Plan will be given to all Town Boards members, School Superintendent Jon Hunter, Fairport Athletic Director Jim Zumbo and the Humane Society. Public copies will be available in the Town Clerk's office to purchase or read at the Town Hall. It will also be posted on the web site.

Jim Donahue and Advisory Board member Jayne LaFay will meet next week to discuss the survey to be used for public feedback on the Master Plan.

AROUND THE TABLE

Advisory Board Chair Al Chesonis recommended press releases are published with information of classes where openings remain. When notifying participants of cancelled classes, other class dates and times or other available classes might be suggested.

Jayne LaFay informed the Advisory Board that the last Teen Center Unplugged had 7 bands with standing room only. Many parents stayed for the event and had very positive comments to share.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm. The next Advisory Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 25, 2008 at the Perinton Community Center at 7:00pm in room 211.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie C. Kayser
Secretary