

PERINTON RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 29, 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 Recreation Jeff Myers.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the January 8, 2009 minutes (December business) by Board member, Kevin Ruster; seconded by Board member, Jayne LaFay; minutes approved.

COMMISSIONER DONAHUE'S REPORT

Summer "Better Together" Program

Dialogue continues with the Fairport Schools on offering the Better Together Program component of summer playgrounds as in the past. Fairport School officials will contact us in February with their decision to continue partnering with our department to offset the cost to participants for this program.

Bids

Bids were opened Thursday January 15, 2009. Bid recommendations for wearing apparel, recreation supplies, arts and craft supplies, and janitorial services were approved by the Town Board last evening. A copy of the bid request is in the folders.

PCC/Aquatics Center Update

Winter aquatics programming goes well in the aquatics center. Pass and Point of Sale revenues are on target for the beginning of the fiscal year.

New Pool Related Legislation/Requirements

We are continuing to try to locate pool drains that will allow us to conform with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act passed by Congress and interpreted by the Consumer Product Safety Commission as discussed at previous meetings. The challenge continues to be finding products that meet both the CPSC guidelines and are also approved by the Monroe County and NY State Health Departments. We are not aware of any products meeting these criteria to date.

Staff Update

The Parks Director position was posted internally and also advertised in the Democrat and Chronicle, as well distributed through professional organization and educational channels. We received some very good candidate applications. Interviews were conducted in January. After the interviews the Commissioner recommended the Town Board hire Stacey Estrich. Stacey has a degree in Urban Forestry and Landscape Horticulture with a minor in Plant and Soil Science from the University of Vermont. Her most recent position has been with the City of Rochester as a horticulture technician for the past two plus years. Stacey has also had experience in retail sales at a local Nursery and owned a landscaping business. She was the Rochester Landscape Technicians Program training coordinator for several years. Stacey is also NYS Certified Pesticide Technician and NYS Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional. She is active in several professional organizations that would be of benefit to the Town. She is also a resident of Perinton.

Financial Update

The deposit to the Supervisor for January was \$154,182.23. This is \$22,563.36 behind last January's deposit. We should have a clearer picture of income by the end February, since some year end income is appropriated to 2008.

Master Plan Update

The master plan final draft is in your handouts. The staff is seeking board approval this evening and the document will be forwarded to the Town Board for their consideration.

Egypt Park

The Commissioner met with Alice Calabrese, CEO of the Humane Society and reviewed preliminary plans for park improvements. The park improvements are a part of the town's recreation and park master plan.

Ice Skating at Fairport Junction

A survey of use for the ice skating rink is available on the village and town web sites. The Fairport Village Partnership is seeking feedback from rink users as they proceed with preliminary plans for rink improvements.

Erie Canalway Trail User Count

Advisory Board member Dave Schaeffer provided the department with trail count summaries for the Erie Canal trails. A copy of this summary is enclosed in your packets.

Boat Launch Land Conveyance

The Town Board approved a recommendation from the Recreation and Parks Department that the Town pursue a land conveyance from the NYS Department of Transportation for land at the boat launch. The resolution passed and will be forwarded to the NYSDOT for further action. This land is essentially the parking lot and entrance to the boat launch.

DIRECTOR MYERS' REPORT

- I. Recreation Programs.
 - A. RECTRAC – Rec Facts.
 1. Winter 2009 registration currently at \$121,325. There are 3,114 participants signed up in 295 classes. Last year at this time registration was at \$106,865.
 - B. Upcoming Special Events.
 1. Perinton Popular Pizza Parlor Poll: Once again, filled to capacity (226). Scheduled for Thursday, Feb 5. 9 pizza parlors will be participating.
 2. Father & Daughter Valentine's Ball: 83 people enrolled for the Saturday, 2/14 event.
 3. These two programs are Family-Friendly.
- II. Facility Usage.
 - A. PCC Room and/or Gymnasium Rentals – 2009.
 1. Currently at 32 reservations for \$5,504.00.
 2. Last year current revenue \$4,380.00.
- III. Recreation Equipment, Wearing Apparel and Arts & Crafts Supplies Bids
 - A. All bids approved by Town Board at last night's meeting.
 - B. Recreation equipment: \$4,654.97
 - C. Wearing Apparel: Winning bid: \$8,377.29; highest bid: \$19,675.47.
 - D. Arts & Crafts: \$5,318.27
- IV. Program Change Proposals.
 - A. Softball Umpire's Contract. – Change affiliation from RDU to SORA.
 1. PRP has contracted with Rochester District Umpire's Association (RDU) for softball umpire services for decades.
 2. PRP has experienced increasing difficulties throughout the past several years with RDU, including unassigned games, umpire no-

- shows, inability to contact RDU in event of umpire no-show, and incorrect invoicing from RDU to PRP.
3. Sports Officials of the Rochester Area (SORA) has been refereeing our adult basketball leagues for two years now, and has ensured us that the above listed problems will not occur with their organization.
 4. SORA is recommended by 5 other municipal recreation departments that host adult softball leagues.
 5. The Advisory Board was in complete agreement with Director Myers' recommendation to change the affiliation for the Umpire's contract from RDU to SORA.
- B. Adult League Participation. – Increase Non-Resident Participation.
1. Current policy allows for 33% of team roster to consist of Non-Resident players.
 2. Softball participation is down in our program, while other municipal recreation softball programs are experiencing increases in participation, due to their lack of residency requirements.
 3. Proposal is to allow 50% of team rosters to consist of Non-Residents
 4. Following discussion of the adult softball member participation, the Advisory Board members unanimously approved the proposed change allowing 50% of softball team rosters to consist of Non-Residents
- V. New Program Initiatives.
- A. Outdoor Movie in Amphitheatre.
1. August 14th, "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory", Jeff N. putting together a mini-sponsorship packet.
- B. Passport to Family Wellness.
1. Encourage people to use the trail systems throughout town.
 2. Prizes (incentives) for walking 5 trails, 10 trails.
 3. Booklet (Passport) provided to users for information, and to record trails visited. Each trail head post will need an identifying plate installed for "rubbing" to prove visitation. This plate installation would be a great Scout project.
 4. Working in conjunction with Wegmans and the Crescent Trail Association, with hopes to also work with Humane Society of Lollypop Farm and Waste Management.
 5. Advisory Board Chair Al Chesonis suggested we market areas experiencing program softness. Currently, Kathy Goodrich has targeted marketing efforts toward programs with low enrollment and the results have been favorable with some increase in program registrations. Other suggestions by Chair Chesonis included offering a free class on financial planning to draw residents to the center that may not be familiar with what we have to offer here. Offering special events during the school breaks in February and April might be a good opportunity to bring in more revenue. More family events that are popular like the Pizza Parlor Poll could be another option to consider. Posting class openings on line or at the PCC (possibly a digital display) may draw attention by residents browsing the web site or visiting the Rec Center.

PARKS REPORT

The staff of the Parks Department has done an excellent job of maintaining the sidewalks at the Perinton Community Center and Town Hall especially during the recent bout of inclement weather. Four of the Parks staff also worked as wingmen on DPW trucks this past Wednesday plowing roads throughout the Town.

MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Advisory Board member Jayne LaFay made a motion to approve the proposed final draft of the Master Plan; seconded by member Dave Schaeffer; unanimously approved by the Advisory Board.

FAIRPORT SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Commissioner Donahue met with School Superintendent Jon Hunter, Athletic Director Jim Zumbo and school construction contractors on January 5, 2009 and discussed in detail how planned construction will affect the recreation program offered by the Town. A summary of the meeting was presented to the Advisory Board. Commissioner Donahue expressed his compliments to School Superintendent Hunter for recognizing our department's needs and helping us through this process. The following is a summary of school renovations:

Brooks Hill School: The school will not be available for 2009 or 2010. Move programs to Jefferson Avenue where possible.

Martha Brown School:

Starting May 2009 access to the gym will be limited to only one gym door near the parking lot. The field next to the school will not be available. Barricades will be erected on the south and west side of the school to regulate foot traffic. Some of the fields will be under construction.

Minerva Deland School:

Starting May 2009 the access to the gym will be through the locker rooms only. New construction will take place on the north entrance to the gym. The gym will be available by 2010.

Northside School:

Starting May 2009 access to the Northside of the school classroom wing will be limited. Fencing will be installed along the side of the school we use for our programs. We will need to develop a safety procedure to provide a safe crossing for the participants entering and exiting the building. There will no use of the area directly near the building.

Classrooms and gym are ok for 2009 and questionable for 2010. Construction work will mainly be in the northwest corner of Northside. A program move to Dudley is possible in 2010 but not guaranteed as fiber optic cable will be installed in both schools in 2010.

Johanna Perrin is not available in 2009. The new gym should be available by 2010.

Jefferson Avenue School:

The access to the school from the north side of the building will be ok. The area in back of the school (east side) will not be available for use in 2009. The gym and cafeteria are ok for use. Construction access to the back of the school will occur on the south side of the school.

Fairport High School:

The gym will be available in 2009 but unavailable in 2010.

2009 GOALS DRAFT

Although some parts of the 2009 Goals are still somewhat visionary and not quite measurable at this time, by the end of the year a measure of success should be available. Expense estimates for goals will be determined prior to implementation of the goals. The Capital Reserve Building Fund may be used to provide monies for some improvement projects. A motion to approve the 2009 Goals was made by Board member Steve VanVreede; seconded by Jayne LaFay; unanimous approval by the Advisory Board.

AROUND THE TABLE

Commissioner Donahue thanked the Advisory Board for their help bringing the Master Plan to completion.

Advisory Board member Steve VanVreede recommended locking into lower pricing for supplies needed for paving projects if possible.

Recreation Director Myers also thanked the Board for their support with the Master Plan and other issues brought to the Board for their input and approval.

High Acres has assembled an informal public outreach committee to provide ideas on ways to enhance the area habitat. Board member Dave Schaeffer and Chris Fredette are members on that committee. Dave Schaeffer is also a member of the Codes Committee working on Motor Vehicle law relevant to the use of electric mobility devices on Town sidewalks.

The continued efforts of the Recreation and Parks Department to maintain the excellence of the Better Together program was applauded by member Mike Coppola.

Board member Kevin Ruster expressed thanks for the efforts of the Parks Department for a job well done in maintaining the sidewalks during the tough winter weather we have experienced, and kudos to Jayne LaFay and other staff for the success of the Unplugged events at the Teen Center.

Board Chair Al Chesonis wished congratulations on the hire of Stacey Estrich as Director of Parks. He also encouraged the Recreation staff to continue to brainstorm on ways to reintroduce the department and what it has to offer the residents of Perinton in spite of the downturn in the economy.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm. The next Advisory Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 26, 2009 at the Perinton Community Center, Room 211 at 7:00pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie C. Kayser
Secretary