

PERINTON RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 26, 2009

PRESENT: Chair Al Chesonis, Advisory Board Members Mike Coppola, Cheryl Hanzlik, Jayne LaFay, Kevin Ruster, Steve VanVreede, Commissioner of Recreation and Parks Jim Donahue, Director of Recreation Jeff Myers and Director of Parks Stacey Estrich.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the January 29, 2009 minutes by Board member Mike Coppola, seconded by Board member Jayne LaFay; minutes approved.

COMMISSIONER DONAHUE'S REPORT

Summer "Better Together" Program

The Fairport School District has approved the co-sponsorship of the "Better Together" program component of summer playgrounds. The school district will share the costs of the program for children with special needs.

PCC/Aquatics Center Update

The pools passed inspection by the Monroe County Health Department on February 18. The county inspector stated that they will not be inspecting the drain covers for compliance with the VGB act. Our maintenance staff continues the search for certified drain covers for the lap pool and spa. The presidents recess week pool income was good. Pass and Point of Sale revenues are on target for the first few months of the fiscal year.

Staff Update

Stacey Estrich, our new parks director, started work Friday, February 20. Stacey met with the parks staff and began the review of policies and procedures. She is off to a good start.

Financial Update

The deposit to the Supervisor for January was \$ 84,011.35. This is \$ 18,485.02 behind last year to date deposit.

Master Plan Update

The master plan was forwarded to the Town Board for their consideration at last evenings meeting. The Town Board approved the plan. Final copies will be printed.

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 NYSDOT acknowledged receipt of the resolution and has sent it to their committee 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 \$129,145.65. There are 3,351 participants signed up in 292 classes.
 - B. Program Highlights.
 - 1. Friends-N-Fun has an outing this Saturday to the China Buffet Restaurant. 18 participants and three staff will attend.
 - 2. Polar Wave Snowtubing Tuesday, 2/17: 35 participants.

3. Schoolbreakers, Tues-Fri last week: Participation down from last year, 52 unique enrollments.
- II. Facility Usage.
 - A. PCC Room and/or Gymnasium Rentals – 2008.
 1. Currently at 57 reservations for \$9,229.50.
 - B. Aquatic Center Use February Recess.
 1. Minute decrease from last year. (↓~\$521) (\$20,241).
 - III. American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan – Economic Stimulus Package
 - A. Parks and Recreation are eligible for funding for infrastructure and programming.
 - B. Senate version wrote Parks & Recreation out of the listing of eligible agencies.
 - C. Strong advocacy to reinstate in the final version.
 - D. Crucial, to allow Parks & Recreation agencies to qualify to apply for grant funding opportunities.
 - E. Law is still being broken down for distribution of funding.
 - IV. Center Stage
 - A. All 9 shows have been set. Final performance will have a designated rain date of 9/20.
 - B. 8 of nine shows have Event Sponsors. Some openings for Golf Cart Sponsors.
 - C. Four sponsors from last year not returning: Constellation Brands, Woodcliff Hotel and Spa, Casa Larga Vineyards and Starbucks. The downturn in the economy has been cited as the reason for not participating. Jeff Nutting is working to replace those sponsors.
 - D. No fireworks for the final show.

Board chair Chesonis recommended the staff explore the possibility of offering more family events such as the successful Pizza Parlor Poll and Sports Night.

DIRECTOR ESTRICH'S REPORT

1. Introduction
 - a. My thanks to Jim Donahue, Jeff Myers and Town Board for their support as Parks Director. As described in last months minutes, my background with the City and prior positions will help to establish more community involvement, agency partnerships, volunteerism and public awareness for the Town of Perinton parks and trails.
2. Community Projects
 - a. Eagle Scout Projects
 - i. White Brook Park - Blue bird and bat houses. Built and installed by Scout, Collin Bowen, 20 Teal Drive, Fairport. A freshman at Fairport High school. His troop will continue to visit the 25 houses and maintain them. All houses are 4-5 feet along the perimeters of the open fields. The houses are attached by wire to trees allowing for adjustments as the trees grow. Our appreciation goes out to Collin Bowen and Dave Morgan who assisted Collin.
 - ii. White Brook Nature Center - The Bear Den (third graders) of Cub Scout Pack 225. March 21st or 28th (Saturdays) There will be parents and siblings besides the 10-15 scouts. Time frame would be 9 am-noon. Cub Scouts will pick up the trails and open fields of debris.

- iii. Community Center - installation of maple trees and trash removal along the woods (end of community parking lot). We are waiting for a start date.
 - iv. Beechwood Park - Trail improvements. Waiting for Scout to return call.
 - v. Future Project - Passport to Family Wellness - Booklet trail pass. Each trail head will need an identifying plate installed for "rubbing" to prove visitation.
 - b. Day of Caring Thursday, May 7th, <http://dayofcaring.uwrochester.org> Parks staff and trail volunteers will be looking at volunteer options. Any ideas or thoughts are appreciated.
 - c. Canal Trail Days - June 6, 2009. Parks and Trails NY annual celebration is the same weekend as Canal days in the Village. To not compete with Canal Day events, we are looking at a different day to celebrate our Parks and Trails by offering guided hikes, bike rides, fishing and canoe lessons and Geo-caching. This is an idea at the moment however, I'm moving forward to figure out the logistics for this summer. Your support and ideas are welcomed during this process. This may be a service fee based event with specials to PCC members. It would be nice to repeat this in the winter or over the seasons.
- 3. Pruning
 - a. The following parks trees and shrubs have been pruned:
 - i. Fellows Road, Spring Lake, Perinton Park, Kreag Road, Boat Launch. Parks staff is working on Center Park West and East. Egypt and Garnsey are next, weather dependent.
- 4. Ice Rink
 - a. As of February 25, 2009 the ice rink has been open 60 days out of 71. (85%). Closed due to rain and warm weather.
 - b. Gaskets need to be purchased for 2010 set up. Nick at Fairport Village is aware and making repairs.
- 5. Tennis Courts
 - a. Tennis court nets are going up early at Fellows Road Park for warm winter weather enthusiasts. Mid to late March timeframe.
- 6. Beechwood/Garnsey Park Signs
 - a. Estimates for new park signs to match existing parks came in at \$5157.00. Savings of \$735.00 offered for 10% discount, no delivery charge and no aluminum siding charge. We are moving forward with approvals to have installed by Mid April.
- 7. Equipment
 - a. All winterized and ready for spring. Information to purchase a new loader and mower is being gathered. Auction list of items for May 9th: Ford loader, Mower 325-D, small stihl parts, and crescent trail mower with Crescent Trail Association approval and Town Boards.
- 8. Pesticide Contracts
 - a. Lakeview Landscape - Contract Proposal for \$4920.00 to spray and mulch community center landscapes. Parks staff will be taking this over with involvement from the teen center to help mulch the landscape beds. We currently have 3- parks staff with pesticide licenses.
 - b. TruGreen - Proposal review on Friday February 27. Concerns about spray timing with athletic fields and community center playground. Law is 48 hour notification. Alternatives for pesticides will also be reviewed for safer, greener products.

Board chair Chesonis asked Stacey what other ideas she is passionate about and how they may be implemented in the Parks Department.

Stacey would like to continue to provide opportunities for the parks staff to remain current with education and training in the use of equipment and pest /fertilizer application. She would also like to encourage involvement by the advisory board with any ideas or suggestions they may have; update the website with more information related to the parks and facilities therein; and create partnerships with outside agencies to support each other as good stewards of our resources.

AROUND THE TABLE

All advisory board members present welcomed Parks Director Estrich and expressed their enthusiasm of working with her as she moves forward with the Parks Department.

Board member LaFay suggested other board members stop by the Unplugged event at the Teen Center Friday evening the 27th. The Fairport High School paper "Lampion" featured a front page article on the success of the Unplugged program.

Commissioner Donahue, as well as many others advisory board members shared how pleased they are with the final Master Plan document which also provides an educational and historical perspective on the Town of Perinton. Photos from the Master Plan might also be useful on the web site.

Steve VanVreede suggested the use of Face Book as a way to market programs to young residents. Other technologies are being explored by Commissioner Donahue and Recreation staff for this purpose.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm. The next Advisory Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 26, 2009 at the Perinton Community Center, Room 209 at 7:00pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie C. Kayser
Secretary