

PERINTON RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 25, 2012

PRESENT: Chair Al Chesonis, Advisory Board Members Mike Coppola, Jim Donahue, Paul Fioravanti, Cheryl Hanzlik, Dave Schaeffer, Commissioner of Recreation and Parks Jeff Myers and Director of Parks Stacey Estrich.

GUESTS: Debbie Ellis, Assistant Recreation Director
Josh Dillon, Recreation Leader

Josh Dillon was an intern with the Recreation and Parks Department in 2010 and has been hired to fill the vacancy left by Chris Waldron. His hours are 2pm-10pm Monday thru Thursday and 10am-6pm on Friday. He is very excited to be back with the department. In addition to working on preparations for the Halloween Parade, he has attended a seminar sponsored by Messenger Post Media regarding mobile marketing. Social media (Facebook) is a great tool if used correctly, and he hopes to anticipate what people are looking for such as QR codes and a Perinton app that will enable users to access such things as the town trail system and parks facility reservations.

MINUTES: Motion to approve the September 27, 2012 minutes by Board member Mike Coppola, seconded by Board member Dave Schaeffer; minutes approved.

COMMISSIONER MYERS' REPORT

BUDGET PREPARATION

On October 10th, Supervisor Smith presented the 2013 proposed budget to the audience at Town Board meeting. The budget proposal includes a 2% COLA for all employees. There are no plans to direct any additional percentages of the health care costs to the employees for fiscal year, 2013; however, 2014 will see more costs being redirected to the employees.

At Town Board meeting last evening, there were very few comments made that were critical of the 2013 spending plan. One resident held the opinion that Recreation and Parks encompasses too large of the overall spending plan, since we are a non-mandated service. Another questioned the 2% COLA being granted, but quickly backed down when she was reminded that the private sector is averaging a 3% COLA for 2013. The Town Board will consider adoption of the spending plan at their November 14th meeting.

BUSHNELL'S BASIN DOCKING FEES 2012

I have included a financial representation of the docking fees that were collected at the Bushnell's Basin Docks. Between May and October, we received \$1,050.00 in docking fees. The 2011 amount (Aug – Oct) was \$663.00.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The deposit to the Supervisor for October was \$111,817.97. This amount is \$718.99 more than October of 2011. Year to date we are currently \$47,335.42 behind our 2011 amount.

AQUATIC STAFF CERTIFICATION

Matt Steffen recently renewed his Pool and Spa Operator Certification and has been recertified for another 5 years. This course is an in-depth instructional and certification course in proper operation of an aquatic facility, including, but not limited to water quality and chemical testing. We were able to enroll Matt in this course at no charge, as we hosted the class for the organizing agency. The normal fee would have been \$145. Congratulations, Matt.

ATTENDANCE AT NRPA CONGRESS

I recently returned from the National Recreation and Park Association Annual Congress and Business Exposition, held this year in Anaheim, California. There were several educational sessions that I attended that provided some information that I can use to advance our department. I have downloaded several educational presentations from the web, and other staff members are being given the opportunity to request presentations as well. My Conference Brochure and session presentations are being circulated for your review.

COMMUNITY CENTER BOILER

The boiler that was installed as part of the original community center construction (15 years ago) is currently broken down. There is one section (of seven) that is inoperable. Estimates for repair costs have come in at about \$10,000. This amount would only be for the one section that is currently broken down. There would be no guarantee that any of the remaining six sections would not break down anytime soon, if the repair were authorized. So we looked into another option. Complete replacement of the 15 year old boiler is estimated at over \$91,000. However, the new technology regarding boilers has made them much more energy efficient. The current boiler is rated at 82% efficiency, which means 82% of the energy source coming into the boiler is actually being transferred into hot water for heating. The remainder 18% is lost into the atmosphere. New boilers are rated at 98% efficiency, and the estimated payback time for the new boiler is between 1.6 to 3.1 years. This is the option we are pursuing. At last evening's Town Board meeting, the board authorized me to solicit bids for materials and labor to replace the broken boiler. Monies to pay for the work would come out of the Capital Reserve Fund (for building maintenance).

DIRECTOR ESTRICH'S REPORT

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The community garden has two fall work days scheduled for October. On October 13; about 40 gardeners cleaned up beds, applied topsoil and planted winter crops. This Saturday we are constructing 18 more raised beds and filling them with a compost/ topsoil mix. Most garden beds are reserved for 2013 with about 27 (38%) remaining plus 18 new beds (52%). In 2012, there were 70 raised beds and in 2013 a total of 91. Hedges of privet or dwarf lilac will likely be used as fencing surrounding the community garden.

Several special events occurred.

- October 5- Fairport Home Coming Pep rally was held at Center Park.
- October 13 -The Fairport Football Booster Club held the first '*Fright Night*' fundraiser for families at Center Park.
- October 13- Rochester Softball held their annual Halloween Tournament on 5 softball fields.
- October 20- Nazareth College hosted a Cross Country meet for the first time at Center Park. Participating Colleges: Nazareth, St. Lawrence, RPI, Univ. of Rochester, RIT, St. John Fisher, Cobleskill, Union, Hamilton, Utica, Ithaca, and Alfred.

All events were very successful and looking to return next year.

Two Eagle Scout projects have been completed at White Brook and Fellows Road Park. Two more continue at Garnsey Arboretum (bridge installation) and White Brook Nature Center (board walk repair).

PARK OPERATIONS

All playground projects have been completed for 2012. We are extremely happy with the results. In addition, bleachers at Fellows Road Park softball fields 2 and 3 were placed on level stone bases.

Conversations have continued with the Village of Fairport and Fairport Red Rage for use of a field at Potter Park. So far, establishment of a home field is moving forward.

The Town Codes Chapter 159 is under review for new definitions and establishing a vehicle policy on recreation areas, open spaces and parks. A core group of Town employees is reviewing the document and will be presented to the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board soon.

The shelter at Egypt Park has been removed and waiting on a start date for new construction.

Park shut down has occurred. All restrooms and water fountains are closed, all nets are down except one soccer field and tennis courts, and Perinton Park tennis courts are still light at night. Park staff is busy with fall projects such as, fall leaf pick up, garden clean up, tree installations, and equipment winterizing.

The Amphitheatre shell was lowered and stored for the winter.

The Town Fire Marshall inspected all 65 fire extinguishers in park vehicles and park facilities.

PARK STAFF

All fulltime staff has received two year certification in CPR infant, child and adult plus AED training. Three new AED units have been purchased for White Brook, Perinton Park and Fellows Road. During summer months AED units will be accessible to the public.

Two full time park employees will be out for surgery starting November 14th. Some seasonal staff has remained on to help us through the fall and winter season. Staff snow removal and 2013 ON Call schedules are completed.

DIRECTOR RIESENBERGER'S REPORT (Presented by Assistant Recreation Director Debbie Ellis)

RECTRAC

Fall 2012 registration is currently at \$180,084.81
There are 3,169 participants enrolled in 349 classes.

FACILITY USAGE

October totals as of October 25: 22 reservations for a total of \$5,274.00
Year to Date 2012: 299 reservations for a total income of \$65,636.75

PROGRAM REVIEWS

CENTER STAGE

See attached user evaluation form, evaluation results and program budget.
The Center Stage Committee will meet on Monday, November 5 to review the 2012 season and begin plans for 2013.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Approximately 40 gardeners got down and dirty on Saturday, October 13 for a Community Garden workday. Staff, teens, garden participants and a Daisy Girl Scout troop cleaned garden beds, turned compost, planted flowering bulbs, and did an overall cleanup of Perinton's Community Garden. The weather at 8:00am start time was 28 degrees after our first frost the night before. The next scheduled workday will be this Saturday, October 27.

HALLOWEEN PARADE

The annual Halloween Parade will take place this Friday, October 26. The weather forecast looks very promising. A new addition last year, Frontier, will be joining us again to pass out candy

and/or stickers for the post parade celebration in the parking lot at Potter Park. Parade begins at 6:00pm.

WHEN I'M IN CHARGE – HOME ALONE SAFETY

This program for children 8-11 years of age is filled with 20 registrants for this month and next. The program has proven to fill a growing need for our community.

LEAGUES

Fall Youth Soccer and Adult Softball leagues finally wrapped up, both successful and profitable. Youth and Adult Basketball leagues are beginning with numbers still being determined. Pickleball and volleyball numbers are solid. We have added an age 18-54 group for Pickleball players on Monday nights and it is going well. We have also added a net for 55+ volleyball players on Thursday night and it has been well received. Both are results of listening to our surveys during the year.

PASSPORT TO WELLNESS PROGRAM

Another year of the Wegmans trail walking program is complete. Participation numbers are down sharply. Partnering with Red Bird Market, who supplied trail mix, kept our costs down. They were very happy to join us. Switching over to Wegmans' printer also saved us money. We will continue to look at new ways to hopefully revitalize. (See yearly comparisons attached).

AQUATICS

Last evening, October 24, due to the alertness of the pool supervisor and lifeguards, a patron with a pre-existing medical condition was removed from the water. Lifeguards used the backboard to extricate the patron from the water and called 911. EMS arrived and assumed care and the patron was transported to Rochester General Hospital. Diane Riesenberger spoke with a family member later in the evening and was told the patron was being released. This was great news. All of the assisting staff is to be commended for their efforts. The patron came to the PCC this afternoon to retrieve belongings and personally thanked the guards and staff. Victor Swim Club began practicing at our facility on October 1st and it is going well. They are renting the pool on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The second session of swim lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays have seen an increase from the first session. We are planning on expanding our programming with Pisces School of Dive, Inc. to include a diving certification class in the winter 2013 brochure. Head Guards Matt Steffen and Laura Silins met with Fairport Athletics Director Jim Zumbo on October 18, to discuss possibly offering a couple of classes at the high school pool. Some programs discussed were a diving program and a Masters swimming program. A Sports Night and Teen Pool and Pizza Party are scheduled for November 2.

TEEN CENTER

We will be renting the Teen Center on Wednesday evenings to a local youth group. This will add to the number of teens in the community that benefit from the Teen Center facility and will help increase revenue. The Youth Pastor, Brian Gilbert, from 360* Ministries is very interested in partnering with the Teen Center in having his youth members give back by volunteering. They will join our Teen Center members on various community service programs. Last week they had 30 participants. On Columbus Day, October 8, 40 senior citizens, teens and Perinton Recreation and Parks /Northfield Enriched Living Facility staff members spent a fun afternoon playing Candy Bar Bingo, as well as enjoying ice cream sundaes. On Friday evening, October 19, close to 80 teens and family members filled the Teen Center for the first Unplugged program of the school year. There were 6 new bands/solo artists featured. The event was a great success and those in attendance are looking forward to the next show in November. Numbers for our Saturday Night Activity program have increased greatly. This coming weekend, there will be a Halloween party, which is one of the year's favorite themes. This is Red Ribbon Week. Several of the Detours afterschool participants helped tie red ribbons on the Teen Center property to support living drug free lives.

55+

This month's activities included an Oktoberfest Dinner/Dance on October 9. Sixty people enjoyed a roast pork dinner with all the trimmings. After dinner, they danced to the sound of "Nice and Easy". The band was a hit and they will be back in February to play for the Sweetheart Dance. Our chorus is getting ready to travel around town to sing at different adult homes. October was our first month for two popular Breakfasts on the Deck. From now on we will host a breakfast on the first and third Thursday of the month. Recreation staff is taking part in serving. This is a great way for residents to put a face with the name of the staff.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Two evening clerical meetings were held on October 17 and 18. Topics on the agenda included balancing, Missing Child Policy, clerical information and reminders.

We are making a strong push to get patrons enrolled in WebTrac. A Facebook Aquatics promotion will be unveiled November 5 through November 12 as an added incentive to sign-up. Clerical staff has been advised to promote to patrons when they are at the counter and hand out WebTrac registration forms.

Marketing Report – Enclosed

November newsletter was sent to 448 requests. Facebook is currently at 855 likes.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Advisory Board Chair Chesonis asked the Rec and Parks staff present if there are any particular challenges they are facing due to the economic climate or budget constraints. Do comments from residents or staff play a role in the decision making process for programs offered? Has the all day Kindergarten had an impact on pre-school program registrations? Is there networking with other towns?

Stacey Estrich, Debbie Ellis and Josh Dillon were in agreement that each individual brings different talents and abilities to the department creating a great team atmosphere. Everyone is encouraged to let their creative juices flow and think out of the box. Brainstorming is always welcome and new programs and ideas are considered. They focus on trying to stay ahead of the curve and in-sync with trends in programming.

AROUND THE TABLE

Cheryl Hanzlik asked why the hot water in the restrooms is so hot (signs posted). Josh will address the situation with Denis Gurnett.

The completion of the change from physical to virtual server in the full building is under way as noted by Jim Donahue

Cheryl hopes to offer a Tardigrades show at the meeting next month.

All Rec and Parks staff are happy to have Josh on board.

Exercise walking, basketball and yoga are among the top 20 sports in the nation as shared by Mike Coppola.

Revision of Code 159, which relates to the use of bicycles and motorized vehicles on trails, is underway.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm. The next Advisory Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 29, 2012 at 7:00pm at the Perinton Community Center, Room 211.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie C. Kayser
Secretary