

Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission
October 14, 2008

Present: Levi Newsome, Gary Falkenthal, Zackary Rapp, Bob Gentry, Jackie Dinardo, Nick Kaplanis

Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm

Minutes from previous meeting accepted, by Levi, seconded by Zak.

Group was brought up to date regarding ongoing projects and activities within the Recreation Dept.

Old Business

- TOPS Soccer had 50 participants with at least the same number of volunteers for the spring program. Have 35 participants for the fall program.
- Pioneering Healthier Living group continues to meet. We are in the process of redefining our mission within the community.
- Nutmeg Games were a huge success and expect the 2009 games to be bigger and better.
- Hatters Park infields were rebuilt in July. This was a vast improvement to the facility
- Hatters Park Field # 1 has been named the Dick Raymond Field. A formal presentation will take place in the spring of 2009.
- Hatters Hall bid proposal has not progressed for quite some time. We may have to look at going back out to bid in order to move this forward.
- Jump for Joy music is a new program for children ages 2-5. We ran a summer and fall session at the Hatters Pavilion. Plan to offer program again in 2009.
- Summer programs were well attended once again. We had several obstacles to overcome: assignment of sites and partial elimination of free lunch program. Breakfast and lunch generated nearly \$10,000 of unanticipated expense to the program.
- Helped PAL to establish Mommy and Me, a program for preschool children. So far over 70 families are enrolled.
- We have entered a contest called New Friday Night Lights. The winner receives a set of lights for a football field.

New Business

Concern expressed about the status of the PAL Building and the War Memorial. The feeling is there should be a more definitive plan going forward as to the future of each.

We have discovered damage to our playground equipment, specifically to the slides, from people running skateboards down them. Police have been notified and will monitor all of the parks with the hope of catching the offenders.

We have re-graded and seeded Candlewood Town Park. Hopefully, the fourth time is the charm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Next meeting is scheduled for, Tuesday, January 13, 2009. 4/14, 10/13 are the other scheduled meetings.

Submitted by Nick Kaplanis, Director of Recreation

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