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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING, January 30, 2008

The regular meeting of the Commission was called to order by Steve Poole, at 7:31 P.M. Ms. O'Connor was unable to attend due to illness. In attendance were Gary Regan, Pat Morton, Lou Valenti, Robin Renner, Eileen Earle, Rachel McGrath. Bill Pullan attended his first regularly scheduled meeting and was introduced to all present and welcomed. (Mr. pullan's name was incorrectly spelled at the special meeting minutes of 1/9/08.)

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted on a motion by Gary Regan, seconded by Lou Valenti, unanimously approved by all members present.

There was no public comment.

Accounts payable, payroll and income were accepted after study on a motion by Pat Morton, seconded by Gary Regan, unanimously approved by all members present. Ms. Earle noted that income is about the same as last year with new program enrollments coming up.

Correspondence: Bethel Cycle has requested use of the school complex for a Biathlon on 5/25. Approximately 250-300 entrants are expected. The run, ride, run course should be ok for use at that time as soon as the sponsors have received the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the Police Commission. We are going to request that they return to us with a complete proposal.

Bethel Baseball hopes to have a fund raiser on 4/20 or 4/27 and they requested Parloa Field. Ms. Earle will suggest they use the Middle School field with more parking. More on this later.

Gary Coles, former member of the commission, founded our first web-site, including design and set up. He has offered to continue with this service, including design and any changes necessary for \$750.00 for one full year. This is considerably less than any other service out there. On a motion by Lou Valenti, seconded by Gary Regan it was moved that Gary Coles be hired for this important service with thanks for his former service to the Department. Motion unanimously approved.

A batting cage has been proposed for the municipal center gym with protection for the floor and with netting to the ceiling. This will be raised to the ceiling when not in use. More on this later.

The state American Legion baseball association has requested the use of our facilities for the State Semis and State Finals. It would be on a Saturday and Sunday and Monday would be a rain date. A proposal will be sent with all details.

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The following programs are in progress and will be completed in about two weeks: Adult Volleyball; PreSchool Programs; Ballet; Dance; Gymnastics; Men's Open Gym; Travel Basketball; Ice Skating and Ski Trips. All are going well.

the following programs are being planned: Easter Egg Hunt; Spring Sports; Children's Yoga; Spring Break Soccer Camp; Also MLS Camp; Lacrosse Skills and drills for younger children; Strength and Fitness for teens; Spring Tennis Lessons; Pre-school Spring Break Camp for 3-5 year olds and Summer Camps.

The budget received a few changes and Ms. Earle feels that it should be adequate if plans go forward as planned. Accordingly on a motion by Gary Regan, seconded by Lou Valenci, unanimously approved by all members present a budget of \$910,606 will be submitted to the Board of Finance.

Ground preparation for the new building is being started and if all goes well, building will begin hopefully to be completed by March. Mr. Poole suggested that Ms. Earle check with the building department to see if waste oil might be used for heating at the new maintenance building since it is efficient and cheap. More on this later.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on 2/27/08. We have no date for presentation of our budget at this time.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Lou Valenti, seconded by Robin Renner, unanimously approved by all members present.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Peg Newell  
Recording Secretary