**Board of Recreation**
**Approved Minutes**
**April 8, 2015**

The Board of Recreation meeting was called to order by Larry Fitzgerald, seconded by Lori Stenson, @ 7:05 P.M. Unanimous

**Board Members Present**: Larry Fitzgerald, Mary Gluck, Mary Witham, Joanne Kenney, Mike Palmerie, Jr., Dean Accetura and Meloria Stenson
**Board Members Absent**: None
**Also Present**: Christopher Moffo, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Approval of Minutes**: **Motion made by M. Gluck, seconded by J. Kenney to approve the minutes of March 11, 2015. Unanimous.**

**Guest/Public Participation**: None

**Correspondence/Payment of Bills**: C. Moffo reviewed bills paid. C. Moffo requested a motion to approve the payments of bills received. **Motion made by L. Fitzgerald, seconded by D. Accetura to approve the payment of bills received in the amount of $2,893.15. Unanimous.**

**Director's Report Reviewed:**

**Swim Program:**

**Swim Lesson** signups were taken this evening with an enrollment of 19 applicants. There are 5 places left for enrollment, with a possible additional class if needed.

**Open Swim** will end on 4/9/15. The average attendance was 30 to 40 participants per night.

**In** reviewing some of the Grants available, Autism Speaks program is available to assist with a program for swim lessons and water safety to those youth with Autism. In order for the Department to qualify, there needs to be a history of successful programs for those with this disability. C. Moffo stated that he is considering contacting the Region in an effort to combine efforts to apply for such a grant.

**Programs**:

**The** following programs are currently offered: Mad Science, Computer Explorers, Girls Inc., Youth Zumba and Martial Arts.

**The** Summer Playground Camp planning is going extremely well; Bus trips have been scheduled for each week from The Connecticut Science Center to Quassy Amusement Park. The Department is currently accepting Registrations.

**Additional** Summer Camps: Hawks Hoops, Youth Football Camp, Incrediflix, Jump Bunch, Girls Inc. summer Mix, Play Well, Computer Explorers, Mad Science, Sciensational, Tennis Lessons and Study Skills.

**The** Department is again offering a Summer Concert Series with 9 concerts. The Series will begin on Wednesday, June 24 with the Kerry Boys and end on Wednesday, August 19th with E2.

**The** 8th Annual Fishing Derby is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th from 7:00 A.M. to 10 A.M. for ages 5 to 12.

**The** spring Horse Ride at B & R Stables is scheduled for Sunday, June 6th at 2:00 P.M.; if there is a demand for a 2nd ride it will be @ 3:00 P.M.

**Throughout** the month of May, Region 16 is offering a variety of free afterschool programs which range from Mad Science to LEGOS. These are the same programs that the Department offers annually. C. Moffo set a meeting with Superintendent Michael Yamin on Thursday, April 09, 2015 @ 11:00 A.M. to discuss this programming. 'C. Moffo advised that he is concerned about the overlapping of activities and that this may lead to the discontinuation of some of the existing programs that we have been offering over the years'.

**Basketball**:

**Youth** Basketball Championship was held on Friday, March 13th @ Woodland High School. 'Both Teams did well, unfortunately losing to Beacon Falls'.

**After** speaking with some of the participants this year, they seemed to be pleased with the new adjustments. 'Hopefully this will allow the Department to expand and develop the program in the future'.

**The** High School League held their playoffs and championship on March 28th.

**The** 3on3 Karen DePalma Tournament was held on March 21st. The tournament was a success with the businesses and community helping out. The Tournament raised $2,179.66 for the DePalma Family. There was a total of 11 Middle School Teams and 12 High School Teams competing.

'**The** Men's League has begun playoffs this week. The championship games will conclude this season beginning on April 20th.'

**Baseball/Softball: The** Brass City Brew has contacted C. Moffo to use the Baseball Field this spring and summer for 9 home games, not including playoffs. The games would begin in May and run through July.

**Also** looking for field space this spring is the Prospect Baseballs 11U Team.

**The** Public Works Department has asked that we look into purchasing portable mounds to be used in the bullpen at Hotchkiss. The mounds would cost $3,999.00 per mound. After discussion, the Board decided not to use the portable mounds due to cost and take-away availability.

**Valley** Fusion is looking to hold its Spring Fling Tournament the weekend of May 1st through the 3rd.

**A** discussion took place regarding accepting Fees for field use. C. Moffo advised that he's still waiting to hear from the Town's Attorney regarding this matter.

**At** this time, all fields are still unplayable and no teams have permitted access to the fields for any practice or games.

**Soccer**: **The** Woodland High School Student Council would like to sell refreshments at weekend Soccer games in an effort to raise funds for their trip to the National Leadership Conference in New Mexico. After discussion, the Board of Rec approved the Woodland High School Student Council for selling 'boxed' refreshments at the weekend Soccer games.

**Prospect** Soccer has asked for the use of Canfield, Caplan Softball Field or Hotchkiss Baseball Field for additional space for practices/games. After discussion, the Board advised that they would not approve the use of the 'outfields' for Soccer practice.

**Football**: The Youth Football League would like to hold conditioning practice twice a week this spring. C. Moffo is currently awaiting all schedules to see what is available.

**Old Business**:

Replace Skate Park Signs: A discussion took place regarding the signs at the Skate Park. **Motion made by M. Gluck, seconded by D. Accetura to replace the signs at the Matthew Kenney Skate Park. 6 Approved/1 Abstained, J. Kenney Motion passes.**

**New Business**:

**L.** Fitzgerald advised that he had spoken with two Council women, T. Graveline and P. Geary regarding the Recreation Department's budget. L. Fitzgerald advised that there would not be more monies added into the budget, so at this time L. Fitzgerald advised to use the monies that was approved toward essential items with regard to Safety issues first: taking down the 'Tire Swing' at Hotchkiss' Field of Dreams, replacing and repairing items at the Field of Dreams, repairs to Basketball and Tennis Courts, Cameras and creating a new Volleyball Court.

**C.** Moffo gave the Board a list of grants that were applied for:
Connecticut Community Foundation, Sponsorship Grant, Concerts
The Snapple/Dr. Pepper, Keep America Beautiful Grant, Recycling
State Farms, Neighborhood Assist Grant, Cameras

**After** discussion, C. Moffo advised that he is looking into other grants including:
Gametime, Grants Play and Fitness, Playgrounds
Recreational Trails Program, CT REC. Trails Grant, McGrath Park
Autism Speaks, Autistic Swim & Water Safety, Swim Lessons

**Adjournment**: **Motion made by seconded by to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous.**
Meeting adjourned @ 8:12 P.M.

*Larry Fitzgerald, Chairman* RBN

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