

**Board of Recreation
Special Meeting
Approved Minutes
June 15, 2015**

The Board of Recreation meeting was called to order by Mike Palmerie, Jr, seconded by Mary Gluck, @ 7:06 P.M. Unanimous

Board Members Present: Mary Gluck, Mary Witham, Mike Palmerie, Jr., Dean Accetura and Meloria Stenson

Board Members Absent: Joanne Kenney and Larry Fitzgerald

Also Present: Christopher Moffo, Director of Parks and Recreation

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by M. Witham, seconded by D. Accetura to approve the minutes of April 8, 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 M. Gluck, seconded by M. Witham to approve the payment of bills received in the amount of \$3,951.05. **Unanimous.**

Director's Report Reviewed.

Swim Program: Swim Lessons – Spring session concluded with two (2) sessions offered. Once again, the Region shut off the heat, but the Athletic Department worked with the Park & Rec to rectify this. A Summer session will be offered in the evening for six (6) weeks.

Programs: Registrations for Summer Camp 2015 are coming in. Currently, there is an average of 40 to 50 participants per week. Last Wednesday, CPR/First Aid training was held for the counselors and camp directors.

Ms. Barbara Peck has asked to offer a program, in the afternoon, following her summer reading camp. After some thought, C. Moffo has offered to have her group join with the summer camp in the afternoon. The camp would not be prorated.

Hawks Hoops Youth Basketball Clinic is starting to see an increase in enrollment as well for the summer. The other camps/clinics have an increase in numbers for their registrations as well.

Mr. Carl Bond of NFL Flag would like to offer Flag Football for ages 5 to 17 this summer. This was proposed to the Board a while back and I have finally met with him for further details. After discussion, they would be looking for weekend field space. All equipment and jerseys will be provided by NFL Flag. The Fee would be from \$75.00 to \$100.00 per child. C. Moffo is waiting for pricing.

Ms. Jill Paterson, a certified Dietitian and Nutritionist, would like to offer a Youth Fitness Program through the Parks and Recreation Department. Through this program, Ms. Paterson will teach participants nutrition education, yoga, fitness activities, and will

help children connect with other children. The program would take place for 1 hour per week at a cost of \$90.00 per person for six (6) weeks.

Gymnastics Class: Ms. Nickie Garon of CATS has asked if we would once again offer a youth gymnastics class. We would offer a Mom and Me program and a Preschool Program coming this fall.

Last week, C. Moffo met with the Prospect VFW in regards to offering a Horse Shoe League at the VFW. The horse shoes would be purchased through the Park & Rec Department. The Auxiliary would sell refreshments and food.

Next Wednesday will begin the 2015 Summer Concert Series. The Department has received a grant in the amount of \$500.00 for this series from the Connecticut Community Foundation.

Ms. Theresa Graveline would like to sponsor a youth art program in memory of Ms. Sylvia Merriman. The class will be taught by Lauren Anderson.

Basketball: The Department will be offering a youth basketball program at Hotchkiss again for the summer. There has also been some interest in the possibility of offering a High School League.

The Men's League has approached the Department in regards to holding an evening Basketball League at Hotchkiss Field for the summer.

This past weekend there was an incident at Hotchkiss Field with the use of the Basketball court. Some of the residents have expressed concern and would like to see us proceed with the additional basketball court at Hotchkiss. C. Moffo has met with the Mayor and concerned residents; some of the ideas exchanged were permits, signage and police presence. C. Moffo is in the process of creating '**court use rules**'; once these are created he will have a sign posted at the park. The Police Department will also receive a copy. C. Moffo advised that the court is in need of repair and he will contact Atlantic Tennis Courts as M & M Tennis is no longer in business.

Baseball & Softball: The Brass City Brew and Legion teams have taken full advantage of the baseball field at Hotchkiss. A discussion took place regarding adding netting to home plate for protection to the walker's path and the Field of Dreams. Board members stated that as part of the permit process, a section should be added to state that a spotter would be present to alert the people on the walker's path. Board members also stated that the Soccer coaches should also be aware of this and ask parents to be spotters on days that their children play. C. Moffo will contact Atlas Fence for cost of the added netting.

Due to scheduling, the Little League 14U Team could not use Hotchkiss Field for their last few home games. The Coach will contact the Department for fall scheduling.

There have been some inquiries about possibly developing Caplan Park Softball Field into a youth baseball field. For this to take place, the infield would need to be lengthened to allow for the extended base paths. C. Moffo suggested considering for next spring or summer.

Women's Softball has increasing interest this season and will be looking to add an additional team which would now bring the league back up to six.

Soccer: Previously, Prospect Soccer requested wheels for the large Soccer goals. C. Moffo received a quote for the 'wheels' in the amount of \$460.00 for both goals for one field; for all the goals the cost would be \$2,760.00.

Football: AYFL will be moving up the start date for the season to July 27, 2015. The Youth Football Clinic will be held on the weekend of July 18th and 19th.

A discussion took place regarding out-of-town fees for Beacon Falls' residents for programs held in a Region 16 facility. Board members concluded that if it is a hardship, then waive the fee, otherwise, due to Prospect's resources that are being used, the fee should stay in place.

Tennis Courts at Canfield Park are in need of repair. M & M Tennis is no longer in business; C. Moffo has contacted Atlantic Tennis.

The new water fountain at Hotchkiss will be installed in the next few days.

Gene McCarthy will be scheduling a lift and JT Electric for repairs to the lights in the center Tennis Courts at McGrath Park.

Vandalism had taken place at the Skate Park; the police caught the individual and they were to clean up the area. Unfortunately, they painted over the existing graffiti and ramp surfaces. The skating surface and equipment side panels are now in need to be repainted before more damage is done. The remainder of the park was cleaned by Service Master. C. Moffo will contact American Ramp Co. and possibly put out to the bid for painting of the Skate Park.

The signs at the Skate Park have been replaced with a different material with a lexan protective face with a cost of \$1,375.00.

The cleaning schedule for the bathrooms at Hotchkiss has increased to 6 days a week with an additional cost of \$130.00 per month for an increase of the monthly total to \$660.00. Due to misuse, RKM Cleaning has also replaced the toilet paper dispensers.

The entrance to Hotchkiss Field is in disarray and in need of attention. New shrubs and fencing will need to be replaced and may need to go out to bid. Board members suggested considering Anne Stein and Sheriscapes.

Miracle Recreation had been contacted to replace the Number Board at Canfield Park Playground for a total of \$589.00. O'Brien and Sons were also contacted for replacement of parts at Hotchkiss – Field of Dreams; the parts ordered consist of Clatter Bridge Connectors and Tunnel Connectors for a total of \$525.00. O'Brien and Sons were also contacted to replace the swings at Hotchkiss for a total of \$3,350.00. C. Moffo is waiting for a quote to replace all of the equipment at the Field of Dreams.

C. Moffo has requested a quote to replace the signage at Hotchkiss. Board members suggested replacing one sign at a time.

Some of the Grants applied for, Snapple/Dr Pepper Keeping America Beautiful, were not received. The Department will submit the Recreational Trails Grant in July and one for Ion Bank which will be submitted this month.

Old Business: Tennis Court repair McGrath Park \$2,100.00

C. Moffo will get an entire quote for Canfield Park from Atlantic Tennis Court.

Basketball Courts – Board members requested of C. Moffo to get an entire quote for the Basketball Court at Hotchkiss including installation for the 2nd Court. Commission members suggested getting a quote from NJL for excavation of the courts. Commission members also suggested if the repair to the existing court is under \$5,000.00 to have the repairs done, then repair, and beginning in the fall redo the current court and install the 2nd.

New Business: Prospect Soccer has requested to increase the size of the Back Game Field at Hotchkiss. They would like to expand the field by 10 yards to accommodate the 17U program while also benefiting the men's league. One of the concerns with this would be the interference with the walking track. Discussion. Board members asked to have the Public Works Department go as large as possible without interfering with the walking path.

Adjournment: Motion made by M. Witham, seconded by D. Accetura to adjourn the meeting. **Unanimous.** Meeting adjourned @ 8:24 p.m.

Mike Palmerie, Jr., Vice-Chairman

Rosalyn B. Moffo, Clerk