

RECREATION & PARK COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
DRAFT
MINUTES

Thursday, December 17, 2015
Avon Town Hall, Conference Room, Building 7

I. Call to Order - 7:37 a.m. – By Peter Ponziani, Chairman

A. Attendance

1. Members & Staff Present

Ruth Checko, Director, Todd Donovan, David Jadovich, Peter Ponziani and Peggy Roell

2. Members & Staff Absent

Donald Droppo, Paul Marioni, Laura Mensi

II. Minutes – April 7, 2015

Minutes from the September 8, 2015 meeting were presented. David Jadovich motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Peggy Roell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment – None

IV. New Business

A. Proposed 2016 Recreation and Parks Committee Meeting Dates

Proposed list of 2016 dates put together by Ruth. Committee Meetings are scheduled for every other month with the summer off. January 2017 date is included so that we're not having to hold a Special Meeting in December.

Peggy Roell motioned to approve the Meeting Schedule as presented and David Jadovich seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Athletic Fields Advertising Program

Ruth advised that the Advertising Program was revisited by the Town Manager and the Town Attorney. Avon's Code of Ordinances references a permitting application and a permit fee. This was not included in the program we submitted. We've established a \$25.00 application fee and advertising terms and costs: \$800 for 1 season and \$1,500 for 2 seasons.

The revenue from the Buckingham signs will be put into a special revenue account and the funds will be used to make improvements to the baseball fields.

Planning and Zoning Commission approval is not needed because the signs will not be visible from the roads. The new planner reviewed and made recommendations.

Bob Emery and John Yolles were consulted.

Each advertiser would pay the \$25.00 application fee and the cost for the terms of advertising. They would also be responsible for their own sign.

Todd asked about football. They have portable signs and sponsorship fees. Could they have a master application with up to 10 sponsors?

Ruth thought that would be okay. She also said that we could lower the \$25.00 application fee, but we have to charge something. The application fee would go into the general fund.

Todd asked how they were going to make any money. Ruth advised that Bob was more interested in making capital and operating improvements at the fields.

It doesn't include the High School at this point. Todd would like to see it expanded to other programs and Peggy agreed that we should.

Todd inquired about Fisher Meadows. Ruth responded by saying that the policy is limited to Sperry Park and Buckingham. Brandon doesn't want any signs at Fisher and there are no fence lines at Alsop.

Ruth stated that this is the 4th time that the committee has revisited this policy.

Peter asked why Brandon doesn't want signs at the girls' softball fields at Fisher. Ruth answered that they would be visible from the road and would ruin the aesthetics.

Peter asked if there was somebody who would approve the signs and Ruth answered that it would be the Committee's job. The Town Attorney wanted it set up that way.

Peter said that \$800 seems high and Ruth responded that Bob Emery recommended that. He has an idea of what people are willing to pay.

Todd suggested that we could always revisit the fee next year. David said that if Bob recommends it, let's go with it. As long as people are raising the funds.

Peter agreed and said that the \$25.00 application fee is not going to deter anyone since they will be paying at least \$800 for the season.

Peter asked for a motion to approve the policy. David Jadovich made the motion and Peggy Roell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. Adjournment

A. David Jadovich motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 am. Peggy Roell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Usha Srivel

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