

Belmont Recreation Commission Minutes of Meeting of April 14, 2003

Attendance:

Lee Barber	Peter Pomponi	Dan MacAuley
Richard Wright	Kathleen Ruane	Kathleen King
C. Paul Graham	MaryAnn Johnson	

7:04 p.m. Meeting Called to Order

The Chairman outlined a long list of topics for discussion in his opening remarks.

The swimming pool at Belmont High School had an unusually high number of closings this school year. Six were due to Health Department regulations and on one occasion the Fire Department closed the pool due to an electrical problem which could have posed a danger to residents. Some of our regular adult swimmers have been voicing disapproval about reduced hours and requesting an extension of the school year schedule to make up for lost hours. It was also decided to add a disclaimer to forms regarding closings that are beyond the control of the Recreation Commission.

A discussion of a paving project proposed for an area near the Winn Brook playground was discussed. The Commission has no funding in the current or future budget for this \$38,000. project.

A discussion was held on the possibility of fees for field rentals to out of Town groups to increase revenue. It could be similar to ice rentals at the rink. A Sub-Committee was appointed to further study this issue that will include Lee Barber, Kathy King, Kathy Ruane, Paul Graham and a representative of both the Soccer and Baseball Associations.

A general discussion on increasing revenue to make the department asset based was held. The Chairman encouraged all members to 'think outside the box' to achieve this goal.

More discussion was held on rink advertising for next season. The Sub-Committee report indicated the potential for 63 ads on the Zamboni and walls of the facility. The Commission will now work on setting ad rates, developing a computer model of the facility for potential advertisers to view and setting up procedures to award the ad space. Sub-Committee members Rich Wright, Dan MacAuley and Peter Pomponi were commended for their efforts.

A Capital budget project update indicated strong support for the new van for the S.P.O.R.T. program, which was rejected last year. The funding to replace Joey's Park is less certain at this time and a discussion was held to weigh options for the future of this facility.

Improvements for the Underwood Pool were discussed. The need to improve the external appearance of the bathhouse was discussed. The suggestion was made to possibly make

the improvement a high school art project. The possibility of putting a soda/juice machine at the Underwood facility was discussed as something that would be popular with residents and increase revenue for the Department.

9:26 p.m. Meeting Adjourned