

- **Belmont Recreation Commission**  
- **May 13, 2008**

- **Present:** Dan MacAuley, June Howell, Lee Slap, Dennis Rocha, Stephanie King, Bill McKenney, Neal Fay, Betsy Lipson, Noreen Millane, Peter Pomponi

- **By invitation:** Jim Davis, Brian Meringer, Rich Lettiere, Alice Rushforth, Deb Benjamin, Jim Fitzgerald

- The meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

- **1. Presentations**

- **Belmont Second Soccer:** Representatives from Belmont Second Soccer presented a plan to renovate the playing fields at Town Field. The plan has the support of Belmont Soccer Association and details were reviewed, including financing of this project. There was discussion with the representatives of the group that this project would not entitle them to control of this location but that the commission would investigate what guidelines may be available to ensure they have continued access for their program.

- **MOTION:** To support the initiative, as proposed by Belmont Second Soccer, to upgrade the playing fields at Town Field.

- **VOTE:** Passed unanimously

- **Parents of Dolphin Swimmers:** The co-presidents raised concerns about the Dolphin swim team, specifically coaches salaries, parent participation and transportation. A lengthy discussion followed regarding possibilities of saving money by evaluating the number of buses needed, if any, to transport swimmers to and from meets and whether funds could be reallocated to other areas within the program.

- **Heart Screen America:** Jim Davis made a report on a presentation that was given at the high school to several departments from the town on a program called Heart Screen America. This program conducts heart screening for a nominal price. The commission supports bringing the program to the high school for members of the community to participate.

- **2. Program Report**

- Spring programs are underway. The recreation department has run into some challenges with last minute summer projects scheduled for the high school, affecting 200 children. This will require some moving of summer programs to another part of the school to ensure safety of the campers. Also, the Higginbottom Pool will be closed for approximately two weeks this summer for repairs. Underwood Pool is scheduled to open June 20.

- **3. Projects**

- The commission received disappointing news regarding tennis court repairs. There is no money available for the much-needed updates at Pequossette, Grove Street, and Winn Brook. There have been updates made at the court at Belmont High School (nine refurbished) and Chenery Middle School (two refurbished).

- **4. Financial**

- **a. Revenue through April 2008**

- The recreation department reported that revenue is \$14,000 ahead of last year, through comparable time periods ending on April 30.

- **b. FY09 Budget**

- The budget for FY09 is level-service with an amount of \$639,000.

- **c. Snack bar rental fees for FY 2009, 2010, 2011**

- The commission proposed the following rental fee structure:

- FY 2009 - \$2,400

- FY 2010 - \$2,500

- FY 2011 - \$2,600

- **MOTION:** To approve proposed rental fee structure for the snack bar at the Viglirolo Skating Rink for fiscal years 2009-2011, for the bid process

- **VOTE:** passed unanimously

- **5. Administrative**

- **a. Advertising programs with sandwich board signs**

- The town has implemented a guideline that sandwich boards must be moved from a location after ten days.

- **MOTION:** The recreation department, with support of the commission, would like to ask for an exemption to the ten day limit for sandwich board advertisements.

- **VOTE:** Approved unanimously

- **b. Comprehensive Plan: Recreation Department**

- Commissioners were asked to review the draft of the plan, as prepared by Betsy Lipson, and send edits or suggestions to her by May 19.

- **c. Personnel**

- Linda Barry will be retiring after seventeen years of service. Her last day will be July 4. A retirement celebration is being planned.

- **d. Acceptance of the April 14, 2008 minutes**

- The minutes were accepted as presented.

- **\*\* UPDATE:**

- The recreation commission identified several immediate areas for action at their March 3, 2008 meeting. Updates on these initiatives include:

- 
- **clarification of field and facility permitting and fee collection**
  - The commission reviewed data regarding the various youth and adult sports programs in town; private (non-recreation department) and recreation. Further discussion is needed on next steps.
  -
- **audit of current programs at the Vigliolo skating rink for school year 2008-2009**
  - A proposal has been received from the hockey programs and a meeting is scheduled for June 2/3 to review with the commission's subcommittee before presentation to the recreation department and high school athletic office.
  -
- **collection of day passes, at every facility**
  - To be addressed.
  -
- **review of area programs/brochures**
  - To be addressed.
- 
- The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.
- 
- The next meeting is Tuesday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m.