

Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
March 15, 2005
A.V.A.S. Public Park, 7:30pm

Members Present: Dave Cumming, Melissa Wells, and William Lionetta.

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle

Call To Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:35pm.

Approval of Agenda

W. Lionetta made a motion to accept the Agenda as presented; motion was seconded by M. Wells and passed.

Approval of Minutes 2-8-05

D. Cumming made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 8, 2005 as written. The motion was seconded by M. Wells and passed.

Old Business

Winter Festival- The Commission discussed the events that were held at the Winter Festival and noted that the Ice Bowling was a great success. We learned to make more balls with different sizes and freeze them longer in advance. The colored water was bright and cheerful and people liked playing the game. The department handed out small prizes to the participants. The D.J. music was not the same as previous years and needed to have a greater variety of songs. We hired a new company this year because our regular D.J. was not able to make it this year due to a personal injury. John Bishop took photos of the activities and they are posted on the Town web site. D. Cumming complimented the staff for assisting at the event. The Commission discussed the date and changing it back to Sunday with an inclement weather date for the following Saturday. The snow mobile club reported a decline in participation this year and perhaps it was related to having the event on Saturday. The Fly-In was not held this year due to the ice conditions. The Commission discussed helicopter rides and scenic air plane rides as an attraction and that those services could be advertised in our flier and press release which could be a draw to the event.

Commission Member- Josh Hoagland was approved and appointed to the Commission. He will need to meet with Lisa Waterman and be sworn in.

Half-Marathon- The Commission is going to have a Beach Party theme with music and beach props. The half-marathon is May 7, 2005. Volunteers include: D. Cumming, M. Wells, W. Lionetta and maybe Mike Lionetta.

New Business

Egg Hunt- The program will be on March 26 starting at 9:00am. Volunteers will arrive to hide eggs at 8:30am. The event is scheduled for Jones Field with a snow/mud/rain location of the ABCC.

Summer Programs- K. Troendle is in the process of putting the program schedule together for the 2005 summer brochure. It will be sent to the graphic designer for layout as soon as it's completed.

Town Meeting Warrant Articles- The Commission discussed the result of the Warrant Articles presented by Parks and Recreation at Town Meeting. The pickup truck and town dock repair projects have been sent out to bid. The Town Beach Improvements passed by one vote and the Beach Committee is in the process of getting information from NH Soil Scientists for review, then the plan will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for approval then to DES for application for the Wetlands Permit.

Softball Coaches Meeting- The Commission discussed the rules and regulations for the 2005 Adult Softball League. The Commission noted that the illegal bat was an issue last season and the rules from last season are very clear about the use of composite bats and that the players and umpire need to follow the rules. The umpire is the controller of the game and it would be their responsibility to make sure the rules are followed and enforced. K. Troendle noted there was an increase in the program fee by \$5.00 to help cover the cost of putting up the net for foul balls and to pay for damage to the neighbors property. The Commission recommended contacting the umpire from last season to see if he'd like to return this season and also establish an umpire pool so we have a group of professionals to draw from. The Commission discussed the strike zone and recommending that the home team line the fields. The Youth League may have a lining machine that we can ask if we can use to help identify the foul lines, which will make it easier for the umpire to call the balls. The Commission also discussed the issue of a player wearing steel spikes and that stated in the rules it is prohibited. The Commission recommended warning the player the first time and then removing them from the League for the second offense because it is a safety concern.

Youth Basketball League- The Commission discussed the Alton Parks and Recreation League playing the New Durham school team and noted a different level of competition and skills. The Commission advised that Recreation teams should play similar type teams and perhaps not school teams that are more advanced. K. Troendle noted that it was positive to be able to use the Alton Central School and Prospect Mountain High School for the program. There were some schedule conflicts throughout the season but for the most part it went very well using the Town facilities and it was only because of the availability of those buildings that the basketball program was able to take place.

Grants- The discussion about Grants for recreational projects was tabled.

Other

Town Meeting- D. Cumming commended J. Bishop for the photos he made for the Town Meeting display board. D. Cumming noted the many photos that J. Bishop has taken for the department and the Commission discussed their appreciation for his contributions, most of which are volunteer. The Commission recommended purchasing a complete pack of ink cartridges and package of photo paper for Mr. Bishop as a token of their appreciation.

Adjournment

M. Wells made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm; motion was seconded by D. Cumming and passed. **The next meeting is April 12, 2005 at 7:30pm at A.V.A.S. Public Park.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Kellie Troendle, Certified Park and Recreation Professional
Parks and Recreation Director*