

Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
January 9, 2007
A.V.A.S. Public Park, 7:00pm

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

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle

Call To Order

Chairman, D. Cumming, called the Meeting to order at 7:00pm.

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 3-21-06

W. Lionetta made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 21, 2006 as written. The motion was seconded by M. Wells and passed.

Old Business

Adult Softball League Umpires- The Commission discussed the challenges with hiring umpires for the Adult Softball League and noted that for two years in a row the department was not able to find a second umpire on a consistent basis, leaving some of the games not officiated and raising the question of fairness for games that do not have umpires versus games that do have umpires. The Department received complaints from the Town of New Durham about how the League was smoking and leaving litter at their field. The Director said the Alton Parks and Recreation Department staff ended up cleaning the New Durham field after the last game due to its condition. The Director indicated that programs run should be successful and well organized and thought the lack of officials was not good for the program. The Commission voted to consider two options: (1) Parks and Recreation will continue to run the program and the teams will provide their own umpires; (2) The coaches will run the program themselves and Parks and Recreation would no longer sponsor the program, motion was made by W. Lionetta and seconded by D. Cumming. The Commission recommended contacting the coaches for their feedback and making a decision at their next Commission meeting.

Jones Field- Green Monster Update- The director reported that the Green Monster replacement was submitted through the Capital Improvement Process with a requested amount of \$13,600 as option 2 for replacement which was: 246' of 10' high, green coated, chain link fence, 10' slats and green pipe work. The estimate to have a wooden fence was \$29,000 installed by a professional or \$11,000 for supplies and labor completed by the Parks and Recreation Staff. \$10,000 was approved by the Board of Selectmen with the intention that volunteers/Town departments would complete the work. D. Cumming suggested that the Alton Youth League could raise money for the fence since the fence is an item that directly benefits the Youth League program. Mr. Cumming stated it is similar to the Alton Fire/Rescue Association raising money for the ATV. The Director noted that the AYL has a committee to work with the Department on the Green Monster Fence.

Alton Bay Bandstand- The Director reported that Bryce St. Cyr completed an Eagle Scout Project at the Alton Bay Bandstand where repairs were made and the structure upgraded. The roof was re-shingled, new stairs were built, the concrete floor was sealed and the bandstand painted. Mr. St. Cyr also donated over \$500.00 to be placed into a Bandstand Maintenance Fund maintained by the Town Treasurer. The Commission noted his

hard work and effort and appreciated him choosing a Parks and Recreation Department facility for his Eagle Scout Project.

New Business

Activity Guide- D. Cumming briefed the Commission on the Activity Guide/Calendar that the Alton Business Association is interesting in putting together for events from May 1-December 31, 2007. Beth Varney of the Lion's Den Flower Shop is initiating the project. Mr. Cumming reported that the calendar would include all of the events taking place in Alton (including Fire Association, Masons, other Group sponsored events) and what a great community resource the calendar would be. The Commission recommended that Parks and Recreation send a list of their events/activities to be included in the calendar.

Winter Festival- As of today the water in Lake Winnepesaukee is not frozen and the weather has been unseasonably mild. The Commission discussed options in regard to the Winter Festival and voted to cancel the activity due to weather conditions. The Commission noted that it is most important to be safe and offer a safe, fun afternoon. The Commission did not believe the ice conditions would be ready for the amount of people the event brings. The Commission is looking forward to sponsoring the event in 2008.

Summer Programs- The Director asked for feedback on ideas for summer programs. The Director noted that there is a gap of services for 7&8 graders. The Parks and Recreation program ends at grade 6 and asked the Commission if they had any suggestions for activities. The department is hopeful to sponsor swim lessons with New Durham Parks and Recreation as that has worked out well for the past two summers.

Program Staff- The Director presented a candidate for a program leader position at \$9.00 per hour to help with the basketball program now and with other department events/programs. The Commission approved the recommendation. The funds to cover the position are raised through program user fees and are part of the Recreation Revolving Fund, which is overseen by the Commission.

Other

Town Beach- The Director reported that the Perched Beach is completed and landscaping and adding sand still need to be finished. W. Lionetta said the beach looked small compared to the drawing and questioned what was gained. The Commission noted that the beach is now level, it looks better, there is a path accessible to Harmony Park and the perched beach will hold the sand in place and retain the land/beach that the Town does own. It was noted that the project is not completed yet and more work is expected this spring.

Big Lake Aid Station- The Commission is interested in sponsoring the same aid station they had last year by 11D.

Adjournment

D. Cumming made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm; motion was seconded by W. Lionetta and passed. **The next meeting is April 10, 2007 at 7:30pm at the Gilman Museum.**

Respectfully submitted,

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