

Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
January 12, 2010
A.V.A.S. Building, 6:30pm

Members Present: William Lionetta, Gerry Theodora, Elizabeth Shelton and Cathy Burke.

Public: Hope Withim

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle

Call To Order

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman W. Lionetta.

Approval of Agenda

E. Shelton made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion was seconded by C. Burke and passed.

Approval of Minutes

E. Shelton made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 3, 2009 with the correction to change the meeting time to 6:30pm under Adjournment; motion was seconded by G. Theodora and passed.

Old Business

Jones Field Fence- Item was tabled.

Security Camera at Jones Field- Money was encumbered from the 2009 Budget to pay for the cost of the security camera/components. The Commission discussed installing the camera at Jones Field in the spring and doing a trial run with it before that time.

Park Facilities Brochure- The Commission discussed the original concept of the trails brochure and the cost versus benefit of selling advertising spaces to cover the cost of a larger, more detailed brochure with schedules and events. The Commission agreed to provide a trail brochure based on the smaller, original version and noted they can edit it and make changes for future printing. The brochure is planned to be 8 ½ x 11, tri-fold with cream paper/green ink and color.

New Business.

Basketball Program Update- K. Troendle reported that the program has ten teams and is going well. There are challenges with the school facilities but the Alton Central School and department is working together to get the basketball practices in for the program. K. Troendle noted an incident that happened with PMHS and the disappointment and challenges faced in scheduling the use of the PMHS gym. K. Troendle stated that the basketball program was scheduled to begin on Saturday, January 2, 2010 with over 100 players to attend and on Thursday, December 31, 2009 she received a message at work and also at home that an individual from PMHS said the program could not take place on Saturday because PMHS did not have snow plow contractors to plow and they were concerned with the mess the basketball program would leave at the school because of a predicted snow fall. K. Troendle said she received the message around 2:00pm (the Parks and Recreation

office was closed for the day) and she called the school to speak with someone about other options, there was no answer at the school and no return phone number in the messages left to speak with a school representative. K. Troendle said that she believes there were other options like the Town plowing the areas and hiring either the school custodian or the Town custodian to address the concerns with cleaning the school. K. Troendle reported that because of the last minute cancellation and lack of notice she spent approximately 6.5 hours canceling the program on New Years Day and informing the coaches and players of the cancellation. K. Troendle said she was disappointed with the way the cancellation was handled by PMHS and noted this is the third time approval has been given to run a program and then denied and this was the second time the cancellation was received with less than two days notice. The Commission discussed the use of the PMHS facilities and noted the school is for use by the community and they were disappointed with the way the cancellation was handled. The Commission recommended that K. Troendle speak with the superintendent of the school to discuss the last minute cancellations and future use of the facilities by the Town and Alton voters. K. Troendle also stated that the basketball program included teams from Barnstead and the Adult Softball program that was approved but then denied also included residents from Barnstead.

Elm Tree Planting- The Commission advised to respond to the email by saying they are interested in working with the Boy Scouts but would like to know where the trees will be located. K. Troendle will send a follow-up email.

Winter Carnival- The Annual Winter Carnival is scheduled for Sunday, February 14, 2010 from 1:00pm-3:00pm in Alton Bay. The department will sponsor the Scavenger Hunt to start at 1:30pm; the Bed Race with Meredith Village Savings Band to start at 3:00pm and will hire the DJ. G. Theodora suggested laying out the race course with cones/ribbon to prevent pedestrians from walking onto the course and also making the course wider to avoid bed collisions. Members that offered to help at the Winter Carnival: G. Theodora- Bed Race; E. Shelton and C. Burke- Scavenger Hunt. E. Shelton noted that the Olympics will be taking place during the same time and including questions about the Olympics in the Scavenger Hunt would be a great way to tie in the Olympics.

Summer Programs- K. Troendle presented a Summary Sheet of summer programs and the income/expenses for review by the Commission. The Commission also reviewed data collected by the MMP (Maintenance Management Plan) and the amount of time staff spend on turf maintenance and snow removal. It was noted it takes approximately 5 hours to remove one inch of snow.

Face Book- K. Troendle reported that the Alton Parks and Recreation Department has a Face Book page and events/programs will be posted. At the Northern New England Conference K. Troendle attended a session on technology and trends in Parks and Recreation and it was suggested that departments have a Face Book page to connect to the users that get information from the internet and to also address problems/resident concerns in a public forum. Members offered to help monitor the site and forward any items that should be addressed by the office to K. Troendle.

Adjournment

E. Shelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm; motion was seconded by G. Theodora and passed. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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