

Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
December 14, 2011
A.V.A.S. Building, 6:30pm

Members Present: William Lionetta, Cathy Burke, Steve Renner, Elizabeth Shelton and Cydney Johnson.

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

S. Renner made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 26, 2011 as written; motion was seconded by C. Burke and passed.

Old Business

Awards for Sports Programs- The Commission discussed concerns brought forward about the Department no longer sponsoring an Awards Night for the Youth Soccer Program. K. Troendle reported that parents said there was no closure and it may be the only awards experience their child would have if they are not involved in school sports. The Commission noted the concerns and agreed that by each team having their own personalized awards gathering with their own team after the season it is actually more personal and meaningful to the individual, team and coach. C. Johnson made a motion to keep the awards presentation as is with the coaches handing out medals to the players at their last practice or game; motion was seconded by E. Shelton and passed. It was suggested that the 2 Alton teams of the same grade could do their presentations together.

Constant Contact- S. Renner reported the following about the company Constant Contact: Email Newsletter- templates available. The Department has to establish the email addresses in a list. The cost is \$15/month with up to 500 addresses or \$30/month for 500-2500 addresses. Event Notices- The Department would create an announcement of the event; PDF/link to the registration form and pay by credit card or Paypal is \$20/month. The Department can continually update the email list and would receive feedback if email was undeliverable. Participants can unsubscribe to the notices if they no longer want to receive them.

PMHS Band- The Director thanked E. Shelton for the suggestion of contacting the PMHS Band to participate in the Light Up Night Event. The Band was excellent and added a great deal to the event.

New Business

Ice Rink- The Director informed the Commission that a family was interested in a community ice rink at Liberty Tree Park on the Basketball Courts. The Director said in the past the marsh was used for a skating area and noted the basketball courts as an ice rink was not successful in past winters because of the sun melting the ice base; also the surface of the rink is high maintenance. The Commission recommended that the family see what other options are available through a volunteer group maintaining the area or seeing if other residents will offer skating areas on the lake. E. Shelton said PMHS students have to volunteer community service hours as a requirement for graduation and maybe high school students could perform maintenance of the rink.

Summer Programs- The Commission discussed the Summer Program offerings and recommended making one full day youth program per week to start at 8:00am-3:00pm or 4:00pm instead of shorter day programs. The Director reported that the Department is planning to offer a Karate program in January. Other program ideas included: fishing, golf, and tennis lessons.

Other

Basketball Program at PMHS- The Director reported that she was contacted by PMHS and informed that the confirmed, approved gym time is not available and the Parks and Recreation Basketball Program was getting bumped because the school needed the gym. K. Troendle said she was told there was nothing the Department could do about it and the Department could speak with the Superintendent if they wanted to speak with someone. K. Troendle stated the change will be a challenge because the game schedule was already distributed to the 6 other Towns at the end of November and the schedule is currently being handled out to Alton players.

21 games will be canceled and officials and staff were already hired to facilitate the program. K. Troendle reported concern with being approved to use the community facility and scheduling programs and then being told the facility is not available. K. Troendle said she is waiting to hear if the boys basketball coach can find another time to practice and if the schedule could remain the same before contacting the Superintendents office. The Commission recommended contacting the Superintendent and informing him of the situation and the Parks and Recreation program being bumped from the facility after going through the proper channels and receiving approval for the use of the facility.

Adjournment

E. Shelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm; motion was seconded by C. Johnson and passed. **The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at 6:30pm at AVAS.**

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