

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
Regular Meeting Minutes July 18, 2018
Town House

Approved August 8, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:04pm

Members Present: Phil Tarsi, Eric Jacobson, Eric DeGray, Dave Paradis and Terry Ford

Members Absent: none

Invited Guests: none

Also Present: Town Clerk, Eva Wiseman, Derrick Biermann, Tim Connors and Julie Zanetti

Bills: - presented and signed

Mail/Correspondence: - none

Agenda Items:

AD notified everyone that meeting was being recorded

Soccer:

Julie Zanetti came before the commission to ask for her kindergarten player be allowed to play on the 1/2 grade team that she will be coaching in the fall soccer league. Eric D added that he did participate in the little kickers program and would only be skipping the kinder kickers program and that Julie knows her kids and he has no problem with this. Eric J agreed as long as player is not endangering themselves or others. Dave asked about effect on playing time, Terry added this was not uncommon before the advent of LK/KK.

Terry made a motion to allow player to play up on the 1/2 team. Eric D seconded, all in favor 5-0.

Town Clerk, Eva Wiseman came before the commission because she has an issue with the emergency meetings the board has called and doesn't feel that they qualify. They are to be held when a person feels it is something that cannot wait. She added that municipal law is different, and meetings have to be posted in a timely manner. She wants to make certain they are aware of the open meeting laws because it is something she feels they should know. She cautioned them on posting emergency meetings going forward and told the commission she will be the first to go to the Attorney General. She cautioned the commissioners that this is a very important issue and that they have to adhere to the rules. She told them that they need to read the bylaw and certify that they have taken the test and informed them that another resident was going to bring them information as well and that resident will be very aware if this continues. Dave explained that the commission had set the meeting after hours so it couldn't be posted until Tuesday. He went on to say that the employee was leaving on Friday and if this wasn't addressed then the employment would be over by the time of the next meeting. Terry thought it was an emergency. And that allegations of ethics need to be addressed immediately. Eva offered her personal opinion that the two emergency meetings that were held were not properly posted. They needed to be posted 48 hours in advance with an agenda. She pointed out that weekends and holidays don't count. After discussion, Eva strongly suggested that they review the open meeting laws and ethics training and offered that ethics was every two years and OML review was every December. AD to check with Pam on ethics and OML certification expiration dates.

June 18, 2018 minutes review: *Dave motioned to modify the minutes to indicate that the minutes were reviewed and voted, Eric J seconded, all in favor 4-1*

Dave asked that the minutes be sent out with the agenda.

June 27, 2018 minutes review: Eric D stated that anything out of the norm should be notated based on who was present at that time.

Terry made a motion to approve the minutes removing Dave's name and removing 'as corrected'
Dave seconded the motion, all in favor 4-1

Discussion of content of minutes. Dave dictated a paragraph to replace the presented paragraph. *Dave made a motion made to adopt June 27, 2018 minutes as amended, Eric seconded, all in favor 5-0.*

Request from basketball coordinator to amend meeting minutes dated April 10, 2018. Eric asked Eva if it was appropriate to review and amend minutes that had already been approved. Eva said as long as it were not pertinent to the outcome.

Dave made a motion to amend the minutes, Eric J seconded, all in favor 3, present 1, not voting 1

FOIA: Email received from RAO and requested documentation provided. Nothing from executive sessions were released. Eva and RAO provided guidance on procedures.

Baseball: Derrick Biermann came in to wrap up the season. He told the commissioners that it had been a good year, the TBall coach was great, Eric asked who he was. He had no response from the Pinto coach, sent out emails, never got a response. Terry asked if there had been any complaints and Derrick replied that there was just one from a parent whose child wasn't allowed to play up. He is concerned that there was no response at all from the coach. Terry, that is something we can address. The 3/4 team did very well and came in second in the league. Derrick would like to put out an anonymous survey for baseball to all of the parents asking about the season. He feels it will help with deciding coaches for next year. The 5/6 team did very well and won their division. Derrick attended a potentially contentious game in South Hadley. Koufax started strong but finished sixth out of eight teams due to injuries. Koufax so late in year runs into vacations. Expenses for this year: bats, baseballs, next years, will need bats, baseballs one or two catchers' mitts. Overall very good season. Only one problem this season with behavior and Derrick spoke with coach who spoke with parents and child, the behavior was corrected. Thinking of moving one team up with a 14-1 record for a more challenging season. This year there are about 32 players trying out for freshman baseball, last year there were 15. Eric J said it sounds like it was a great year and Derrick added that Cindi did a lot with the scheduling and that helped a lot. There were issues with umps. Koufax level games taken but senior games not taken. Next year using the arbiter, minimum \$ 50 per game. There are no umps for 1/2, 3/4 we used a high school player, 5/6 we used a college student from town and for 7/8 we used the arbiter. Derrick will be looking at our fees over the winter to see if they have to be raised. Eric thanked Derrick for all that he has done this year and Derrick said that a lot of it was done by Cindi, the hardest part is scheduling and she did that, Eric added that Derrick still did a lot.

Both Derrick and Phil are trying to form teams for the Ash league and if successful will be using Niccum field for practices and some games.

Hiring Process: The commissioners will need to vote on all new hires. They feel the only issue may be with basketball and that the returning employees' names will have to be submitted

Soccer: Generally, the more competitive players move on while the recreational players remain for in town play. The Falcons are moving one to two teams to the Roots USA soccer league. Eric J feels that Roots teams should be grades 3-4-5 and that the commission will have to tell people 'no' to playing up next time to keep the team competitive.

Pavilion Rentals: Commissioners will review form at next meeting for liability waiver addition

Summer Program: Campership requests reviewed, *approved by Dave's motion, all in favor 5-0* Intern application reviewed. Eric J recommended letting Joey know intern would be coming, Dave P wants to make sure Joey is comfortable with intern and to emphasize that the intern will need to complete the program. *Dave made a motion to accept the intern into the summer program, seconded by Phil, all in favor 5-0*

Spray Park Water Testing: Derrick provided the CMR; 105CMR435 Brief review of log, and regulations for testing

8:16pm Both Eric J and Phil excused themselves from the meeting.

July 5th minutes: Amendments noted. *Dave made a motion to adopt as amended, Terry seconded, all in favor and voting 3-0*

Wiffle Ball Tournament: AD will contact sponsor and ask for water to be donated. VFW is donating food, confirm with Heath and any costs associated. The Times has run one article and will be running a second article and WPR has sent out an email blast. Phil & Eric J will count/inventory Marty will line the fields, four at Niccum and three at Veterans.

Vacation: AD will be taking vacation on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 24th and 25th.

With no further business, Terry moved to adjourn meeting, Dave seconded, all in favor 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for August 8th at 6pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindi Connors,
Assistant Director