

BELCHERTOWN PARKS & RECREATION PUBLIC MEETING

Jan. 11, 2017

Present: Chris Daley, Bill Vosburgh, Nancy Kwiatkowski, Wilbur Quirk, Kyle Thibeault, Brenda Aldrich, Linda Racicot

Absent: Tilo Schiffer

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

REVIEW MINUTES

Minutes from Nov. 16, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Wilbur Quirk asked that the minutes reflect his presence at that meeting. Nancy made a motion to accept the minutes from the Nov. meeting, *Chris seconded, and motion passed 4-0-0.*

OLD BUSINESS

>Bill asked for an update on disc golf

>Kyle informed the Committee he met with Mike Phaneuf who would like to consider running an adult disc golf league at the Old Town Hall in the spring and is also interested in running a summer program for children. Mike will contact Linda when he puts together details and dates.

>Kyle stated due to the weather, he has not met with LeeAnne to scout a location for a disc golf course.

>Bill asked that Kyle give an update on the Atkins property

>Kyle said he and Linda met with the gentleman who owns the Atkins property on route 181. There were large storage facilities that could possibly be reconstructed into an indoor court/field facility. The space was too small, not what he envisioned and the asking price was considerably high considering there were asbestos issues. Kyle stated there were parties involved with the field hockey program that were interested in perusing the property on their own.

>Bill asked for an update with CYO

>Kyle said the CYO board does not often meet during the season and has not contacted him to set up a meeting. He feels everything is going well with the gym time allotted to CYO.

>Linda stated 16 Rec teams and 5 of the Dare teams are practicing and playing games at CHCS gym. CYO has been given Fridays and Saturday afternoons throughout the season as well as any available openings the Rec is not utilizing the gym.

>Nancy asked for an update on the Friends of the Rec

>Wilbur stating BOAA would like to set up a meeting

>Kyle suggested with the Holidays, he wanted to wait until after the first of the year to touch base with both BOAA and the interested parties representing the Friends of the Rec to set up a meeting

>Wilbur informed the committee that BOAA is trying to set up an informational meeting regarding a corn hole tournament; advertising will be in the Sentinel next week.

>Wilbur passed out a copy of the CPA grants 2016/2017. Wilbur stated the CPA committee questioned the amount of grants submitted and apologized for giving the impression to submit as many as they wanted. He said the CPA would like to meet with Kyle in regards to some of the grants at their next meeting Tues. Feb. 7, and suggested Linda also attend the meeting to answer any questions Kyle may not know being new to the Dept. Wilbur suggested meeting with Kyle to reword some of the grants submitted prior to the CPA meeting.

>Kyle said he was recommended by DPW and Highway to submit several grants.

NEW BUSINESS

>Kyle stated minimum wage increased the first of the year. Kyle met with Gary to discuss bridging the gap for the part time staff wages. Advertising for help wanted in the Sentinel, website, school announcements and the newsletter, as of now the office has received 1 application. Kyle said the struggle with not paying staff minimum wage is kids can go elsewhere for more money. Kyle will be meeting with Gary and Jill with a proposal for new rates.

>Brenda suggested bringing this issue to the Town Meeting

>Kyle stated the federal rate has not increased since 2009.

>Kyle announced he has compiled the policies and would email them to the committee for review and discuss at the next meeting.

>Brenda informed the committee that a Pride 12 bay gas station will be coming to the rte 202 & rte 21 corner. Also Alden Credit Union will be moving in the old Easthampton Saving Bank building at the corner of rte 202 and rte 21.

DIRECTORS REPORT

>Kyle said the Recreation Dept. is running a bus trip to Mohegan Sun Casino at the end of the month. As of now, 20 people have registered.

Next Recreation Committee meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Recreation Conference Room.

Nancy made a motion to adjourn. *Chris seconded, motion passed 4-0-0.*

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.