

January 7, 2008
Reorganization Meeting of Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board

Members Present – Bill Zickler, Doug Troast, Dave Swezey, Jan Vanderhoff, Dave Kohle, Bruce Vitcavich, Robbie Jones, Dawn Skvarca, Maureen McMahon, Joe Jorgensen, council liaison and Denise Furfaro, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Nominations – Bill Zickler for Chairman and Dave Swezey for Vice Chairman. A unanimous vote was approved for both.

Minutes from previous meeting – Accepted as written

Chairman Bill Zickler called the meeting to order and welcomed Joe Jorgensen to the board. He hoped everybody had a wonderful Holiday. Bill mentioned that he noticed that the leaves were being picked up from the town in a very efficient manor. All of the maintenance men are doing a good job. He also noticed that the Bark Park is being used all the time. It has been a wonderful addition to our town.

Council Report – Joe Jorgensen reported that the skateboard people will be returning to the council with a new set of figures and equipment. The council is concerned with promised pledges, if they can be fulfilled. Fund raising has been slow. Dave Swezey has met with the skateboard people to help in organizing their information. LLC questions have again come up. Companies would be more willing to donate if they could receive a tax write off. Instead of monies, equipment might be donated. Maureen stated that opinions seem to vary. Maybe information should be gone over before presenting facts. Joe Jorgensen also reported that the town has been looking into a new cable channel. It would offer better access and more information to the public. A representative will be coming in to explain the system. The board of Ed will be sharing the channel.

Open Space – Jan reported that there was no meeting in December.

Director's Report / Old business – Commerce bank property will be just enough for a soccer field. Plantings will be required by Commerce Bank along the river line. Jan also reported that the paper work has been signed.

Denise questioned if there has been any feed back from the joint board meeting. Joe Jorgensen responded that the Environmental Commission will be preparing some information packets. We are over budget with PV park. Chlorine and over time for maintenance are some of the main issues. Much discussion ensued for possible solutions to an on going dam problem and revenue short fall. Rockledge Park has had no movement.

ATV / Director's Report continued – Doug Romain, a business owner from West Parkway has given a \$5,000 check for donation. It is to be used to purchase an ATV for patrolling Mountainside and Aquatic Parks. Denise explained that the Rangers will be required to attend a class for use and safety of the ATV. Dawn Skvarca is very much against the ATV being used for chasing other ATVs. She has said that many accidents have occurred because of this. Denise assured the board that the Rangers know what they're doing.

The Parks are like their back yard. Many of the board members believe that it could serve as a deterrent to potential offenders. There are also areas of our parks that would be faster to access in an emergency situation if we had an ATV. Joe Jorgensen wanted to make sure that there were no contingences given to the business owner to offer patrols through the factories. Denise assured everyone that she made it clear that no preferential treatment will be given for this donation. Jan also questioned why so many warnings are written and tickets are not issued. Denise responded by saying all cases are different. She stands by the Ranger's knowledge and long term experience.

New Business – PV Park overages need to be addressed. Program fees will have to increase to maintain a better financial balance.

Denise does not want to lose control of PV Park, but it has become a money pit.

Maureen suggested to Denise to get ride of her headache and give control to a private business entity.

Denise responded that she does not want to give up on PV Park, but it can not continue to loss money.

Rockledge Park / Copley Ct. – Jan measured field and it remains the same as 2001 measurements. After leaf season, plans are to move the hydrant. A question was presented that there are wetland issues, why do we mow and maintain field? Monies are not in 2008 budget. We will be working on Greenview park improvements.

Individual Board Input - Dave Swezey would like to have the board review the Recreation Master plan. He would like to see the board receive a copy , also The skateboard project to be completed in phases instead of cutting corners.

Correspondence – None

Adjourned – 8:45 pm

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
February 4, 2008
Regular Meeting
Senior House

MONTH OF JANUARY

AGENDA

Minutes of Previous Meeting
Chairman's Comments
Council Report
Open Space Report
Director's Report
Old Business
 Recreation Master Plan
 Donation for Quad
 Township Manager Meeting
 Rockledge Park
New Business
 PV Park Proposed Operating Hours
Individual Board Input or Ideas
Correspondence
Dates: March 3, 2008, Next Regular Meeting