

Colchester Parks and Recreation Commission
September 14, 2009
Town Hall
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman S. O'Leary, J. Barr, N. Kaplan, E. Kundahl, C. Ferrante, L. Dimock, L. Stephenson

Members Absent: C. Williams, A. Spranzo, M. Kennedy

Others Present: Jay Cohen, Park and Rec Director, Paula McDowell, Tom Carey, Anita Pizzutiello

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman O'Leary called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. **Citizen's Comments:** P. McDowell said that police have been patrolling the commuter lot by the football field. There are two spots that need to be left open. The lines and signs are faded and people are complaining that they cannot see them and therefore parking in those spots.
L. Dimock asked if something could be done with an overgrown bush by the fence that attracts bees. Children have been stung.
T. Carey has been comparing the lighting costs between last year and this year and would like an explanation as to why the cost has increased drastically on R 2. He would also like to know where the money that is charged is being used for. The way in which the rate is configured was explained as well as that the money is used to go towards maintenance of the lights. The money is put into the town's general fund. The cost went up dramatically on R2 because of it being incorrectly undercharged in the past.
T. Carey was concerned that the money is going into the general fund with no guarantee that it will actually be there when needed. The parents of the youth sports are paying for whatever the town decides to use the general fund money for. He recommended that the money be put in a separate account to assure it will be available when the warranty on the lights expires.

** Note error on posted agenda of the minutes to be approved.

3. **Acceptance of the August 3, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes:** E. Kundahl motioned to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2009 meeting, seconded by N. Kaplan. All members present voted in favor.
MOTION CARRIED.
4. **Reading of Correspondence:** None
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - **Facilities:** E. Kundahl and J. Cohen walked the fields. They look good. R7 is doing well enough to be mowed. All mowers are currently down. The First Selectman is reviewing all vehicle repairs that are needed. Chairman O'Leary asked all costs for rentals while the mowers are down are kept track of to reference at budget time.
 - **Finance/Administration:** None
 - **Programs:** L. Dimock reported that on October 8, 2009 there will be a party for all the sponsors. The house lighting date in the brochure needs to be changed to December 14, 2009. Paul Picard is willing to fix the tree stand that was damaged last year when the tree fell. Possibilities for trees were discussed.
 - **Skate Park:** Needs to be removed from the agenda.
 - **BOS Liaison:** None
 - **Dog Park:** The committee continues to do a great job fund raising.

E. Kundahl motioned to accept all committee reports, seconded by C. Ferrante. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

6. **Discussion and Possible Action of Extending Fencing at R6:** J. Cohen received a call from a man that is concerned about people being hit by balls when walking around the path near R6. C. Ferrante said that not very many balls go out there. The area near R6 is actually worse. The man who called was invited to the meeting but did not come.

7. **Director's Report.** Tennis courts look good after the school did repairs. Crews did a good job getting the school grounds ready. The regular staff is full but positions were filled with seasonal employees leaving those positions vacant. The contract with the architect for the new track has been approved. Cody Camp field goes to Planning and Zoning this month. Qualite will be inspecting the recplex light poles under the town's warranty due to the fact that there have been lighting pole failures nationally. Before/After school program is still being worked on. Refunding report was reviewed. Chairman O'Leary asked about the funding of the Supervisor's position and asked that reports be sent to the BOF quarterly showing the status of the funding. N. Kaplan motioned to approve the Director's Report as presented, seconded by E. Kundahl. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
8. **Recreation Supervisor's Report (Quarterly):** Start Smart sports continue to be popular. Tennis is growing in popularity. The Basketball Jamboree was cancelled due to lack of interest. Spring Vacation Camp had its highest registration ever. C. Ferrante motioned to approve the Supervisor's Report as presented, seconded by E. Kundahl. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**
9. **General Comments:** E. Kundahl commented that the fireworks at the 57 Fest were very good. A. said that support from the sports leagues was down. There was questioning as to if the earlier date had created a conflict for the leagues.
10. **Adjournment:** E. Kundahl motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by C. Ferrante. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Chairman O'Leary adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Dawn LePage, Clerk