

**SUFFIELD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
November 4, 2015**

The Suffield Parks & Recreation Commission held its regular meeting on Wednesday, November 4, 2015, in the upper level conference room, Town Hall, 83 Mountain Rd., Suffield, CT.

ATTENDANCE:Lou Casinghino, Chairman
.....Cindy Nicholson, Vice Chairman
.....Kerri Milne, Clerk
.....Leeayn Burke
.....Brian Casinghino
.....David Rusnock
.....Scott Toby

ABSENT:Jay Bombard
.....Amy Egan

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:.....Wendy J. LaMontagne, Director

Lou called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

MINUTES: Cindy made a motion to accept the minutes. Kerri seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE: Wendy said she has received the A.C.C.E. request and is working on this. Wendy said that it will be requests for Babbs and Wendy will have the information for the December meeting. The A.C.C.E. request will be discussed then. Leeyan asked how this will work with A.C.C.E. and the Finance Board. Wendy reviewed how the process works.

PROGRAM REPORTS: Kerri talked about the Speed Training Clinic and how well it has been received. Kerri said it was a great program. Wendy talked about a new program, Fit Kids and she hopes this will also be a success.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bridge Street Community Center: Wendy said that Krystal Holmes has been in touch with both herself and Brian to set up a meeting with the staff to start the planning process as the subcommittee is set up. Wendy said that Amy is interested in being on the subcommittee. Lou said that Krystal will be the chairman, Brian will be the vice chair and Beth Chafetz and Joseph Sangiovanni will be on the subcommittee. Lou asked who else from the commission would like to be on the subcommittee. Lou said that only 3

members can be on the subcommittee, otherwise it becomes a meeting and needs to be posted. Lou discussed what the subcommittee will be looking to do and what it will be working on. The commission discussed having commission members rotate so that those members who want to attend meetings and visits on weekends and evenings can do so.

Cindy thanked Lou for the thank you letter in the Suffield Observer. Lou discussed the thank you letter that the selectmen received.

The commission discussed the importance of the community center and the people who have helped get this accomplished.

The commission discussed future budget requests for the project, the upcoming budget requests along with the need for the administrative secretary position. It was discussed to request this position be reinstated in the upcoming budget and see what happens.

Brian said that we should be in close contact with the 1st selectman since this will be one of the biggest things that will take place under her administration.

Soccer: Wendy said last Saturday was the end of the season with a few teams doing a make-up game next week. Wendy said the wrap up coaches meeting was just held tonight. Cindy said that the meeting was good and she was very happy with the comments. Scott also agreed with Wendy and Cindy. Wendy said that there were a few comments and concerns but after discussion of these situations the coaches were satisfied. The consensus that came out of the meeting was that the program was a success; the parents know we have made changes and that it is a work in progress. Also that players and parents are looking forward to next year. Wendy, Cindy and Scott discussed the meeting and the items that were discussed.

Dave discussed comments he has received from a few parents who aren't happy with the program. Cindy asked Dave to give these parents her phone number and to ask them to contact her so that she can speak with them. The commission said that if the parents aren't willing to contact Wendy, or come to a meeting or fill out the evaluation form (anonymously), the commission is unable to resolve their concerns.

Brian asked about the evaluation forms and his feeling that they should be given out at the last game. Wendy said that the coaches have been given the forms via email and asked to give to the parents and the return has been dismal.

Wendy thanked Cindy and Leeyan for the work they have done on the soccer subcommittee.

Youth Basketball: Wendy thanked Brian and Jay for the work they will be doing on the basketball subcommittee. Registrations have already started coming in. Wendy said she could use Brian and Jay's help on recruiting coaches. The coaches meeting is planned for December 7 and a clinic for coaches on January 4. Scott Wissel who does the summer program, will be conducting the clinic.

Wendy said that she has met with the school superintendent who is looking forward to working with us. Our adult programs are back on schedule. If we have any programs that don't go (using the gym) we will give back the gym time as we have in the past. Wendy said that there was another glitch with scheduling. A last minute call today informed us that we couldn't use the McAlister gym for a program tomorrow, which we had approval for since last May. The location of the program was moved but this should not have happened. Wendy said the school staff was very helpful with this.

Brian said that he and Jay met last week to do some brain storming for the program. Brian said that he is going to get in touch with coaches to meet with them and discuss ideas. Brian asked if something could be put on the registrations form to try and prompt volunteers. The subject was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Summer Camps 2016: Wendy passed out a recap of the proposals received for next year's summer camps. Lou said that he felt the commission should have the report before the meeting so they can review. Kerri made a motion to table the camp proposals to the December meeting. Brian seconded and the vote was unanimous. Wendy asked that everyone bring this form with them to the December meeting.

Kerri brought up the community center and said that this has been on her mind and she wanted to be sure it was noted. For the future the commission needs to communicate with the schools on transportation from the school to the community center. Wendy said that she has already brought this up with the superintendent of schools. Wendy said that she is also looking into what the schools' policies are on safety so we don't have to reinvent the wheel.

Cindy formally welcomed Scott Tobey back to the commission.

Leeyan asked about the plaque in memory of Mike Roconti's wife. Wendy said that she has checked into the cost of a plaque (5 x 8 bronze) and so far it will be \$440. Wendy has asked if there is a less expensive plaque with the same intent. Wendy said she is waiting for a response. A tree has been planted at Sunrise Park and Wendy has asked the highway department to be on the lookout for a suitable rock.

ADJOURNMENT: Kerri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Scheitlin, recording secretary for
Kerri Milne, Clerk