

Burlington Recreation Commission
Meeting of August 17, 2009
Minutes

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Chairman Kristine Brown called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Commissioners in attendance: Kristine Brown, Christine Monaco, Kevin Sullivan, Jack Ferren (7:07 p.m.)

Staff members in attendance: Director of Parks and Recreation Don Lorinovich, Parks Superintendent Doug Gillingham

Others in attendance: Mr. Ernest Zabolotny

Commissioner Kevin Sullivan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of July 27, 2009. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kristine Brown and passed 2-0-1. (Commissioner Monaco abstained)

Mr. Zabolotny discussed Melissa Cryan's visit on August 7, 2009 to the Wildwood School site with all present. Ms. Cryan works at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs in Boston.

Commissioner Jack Ferren made a motion to accept the PARC grant/Wildwood proposal Warrant Article as presented to be placed on the September Town Meeting Warrant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kristine Brown and passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Zabolotny left the meeting.

Public Participation

Chris Corbett, Tim Horgan, and Ed Malatesta, representing Burlington Baseball and Softball Association (BBSA), attended the meeting to discuss field proposals with the Commissioners.

Mr. Horgan requested that the Commissioners vote to start work on the lower Simonds Park fields as proposed by BBSA. He discussed shortage of fields and the loss of fields at Memorial School. Mr. Malatesta mentioned that they have regular games scheduled on Saturday and Sunday at present whereas they usually reserved these days for make-up games.

Parks Superintendent Doug Gillingham expressed his concern about possible damage to existing lighting at the field as well as existing irrigation at the field. These issues were discussed as well as lighting configuration at the proposed fields. Warranty issues with the current electrical contractor were discussed.

Mr. Malatesta stated that there is a great need for a lighted softball field.

Ms. Monaco discussed field placement with the BBSA representatives.

Doug suggested placement of a Babe Ruth field at Wildwood Park.

Mr. Ferren discussed reconfiguration of lower Simonds Park fields with the BBSA representatives and spoke to Doug about existing irrigation issues as well as future reconfiguration of the irrigation system.

Ms. Brown suggested informing Athletic Director Ed Gillis about BBSA's field proposal.

Mr. Sullivan discussed the possibility of a Babe Ruth field at Wildwood Park with the BBSA representatives. He cautioned them about the possible future loss of that field and wanted them to understand that their field proposal could not adversely affect other sports.

Mr. Malatesta, Mr. Corbett, and Mr. Horgan discussed lighting issues, game schedules, and field locations with those present.

Ms. Monaco expressed her concern that BBSA would lose their only lighted Babe Ruth field and wanted to discuss BBSA's field proposals in the future.

Commissioner Jack Ferren made a motion to accept BBSA's Phase One field proposal subject to discussion with Athletic Director Ed Gillis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kristine Brown and passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Ferren asked that BBSA be placed on the next agenda under Public Participation.

Ms. Brown went over a list presented to the Recreation Commission by BBSA with the Commissioners, Doug, Director of Parks and Recreation Don Lorinovich and the BBSA, which reflects work that the BBSA feels needs to be done at parks.

Superintendent of Parks Report

Doug reported that the paving contractor's price to prepare and pave the entire walkway as well as build a low speed bump in the driveway at Regan Playground would be \$3,000.00.

Commissioner Jack Ferren made a motion to approve the Regan Playground paving project for \$3,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Christine Monaco and passed 4-0-0.

Ms. Brown asked that Light Replacement at Marshall Simonds Middle School be placed on the next agenda under Old Business.

Director of Parks and Recreation Report

Don stated that the Park Ranger/Supervisor in Simonds Park is working out very well. Incidents of vandalism are down and trash left in the park has been significantly reduced.

Don reported that his meeting on July 29, 2009 with Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Eric Conti, was very productive. He said that Dr. Conti was in favor of the Recreation Department expanding their programs and using the Burlington High School facilities more. Don stated that he talked with Dr. Conti about our Special Needs Program and he and Dr. Conti will continue discussion on the subject at a future time.

Don said that he received a phone call from David Potenza, Director of Property Management with the Gutierrez Company who owns the building where the Nuance Company is located. He said that they have had many complaints on the mess left by softball players and other issues with the parking area used for games at Marvin Field. Don said that he is planning to meet with Mr. Potenza about this and try to solve the problems occurring in the parking lot.

Don said that he and Mr. Ferren met with Bob Mercier to discuss the Town Common sidewalks. Mr. Mercier spoke to John Sanchez and said that they will meet with them at the Town Common next week to discuss the sidewalk issues. Don said he would let everyone know when the meeting will be so that the Commissioners may attend.

Don stated that he has sent a letter to the Just For Fun Company expressing his dissatisfaction with their services on Pride Day.

Don said that he would keep the Commissioners updated on his ideas to make improvements to the Recreation Department. He discussed the Maintenance Trac from Vermont Systems and presented the Commissioners with the cost estimates. It was agreed to discuss this again at a future date.

Chairman's Report

Ms. Brown wanted to thank Doug and Recreation Maintenance for the outstanding job they did for Pride Day.

Don discussed the possibility of extending Pride Day beyond a one-day event and Mr. Ferren asked to be included in the meetings related to extending Pride Day.

New Business

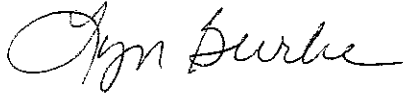
Ms. Brown asked that Future Park Improvements at Overlook Park be kept on the agenda for the next meeting.

Old Business

Doug reported that he spoke to Mr. John Campbell about the edging and repair issues at Simonds Park tennis courts and said that the work to the courts will be completed soon.

Commissioner Jack Ferren made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m.
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kevin Sullivan and passed 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Lyn Burke
Recording Clerk