

**TOWN OF HEBRON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 27, 2009**

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HEBRON TOWN CLERK
A. Poudrier

Members present: A. Smith, E. Ott, A. Fitzpatrick, C. Natorski, R. Poudrier, and P. Hartan
Members absent: A. Heneghan (with prior notice), M Gauthier (alternate)
Staff present: R. Calarco, Director, Parks and Recreation
Guests: None

1. Ascertain a Quorum

A quorum was present.

2. Call to Order

Poudrier called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

3. Citizen Comments/Correspondence

None.

4. Picnic Pavilion/Rental policy

The Commission reviewed the 10-22-09 draft of the document and made edits. Natorski made a motion to approve the policy as edited, Ott seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Summer Camp Program

Calarco gave some background on the summer camp program before presenting proposed changes for the 2010 program. He mentioned that in prior years, preschool camp was a 2.5 hour program held at Gilead School. Camp Hebron served children going into kindergarten through grade 6. Adventure Camp served those entering grades 7, 8, and 9. Preschool enrollment has been declining in recent years, mainly because a 2.5 hours program is not useful to many families.

Calarco and his staff proposed several changes to begin with the summer 2010 program.

- Change the eligibility for the younger camp to children entering kindergarten, grades 1 and 2, plus 3- and 4-year olds. The Commission favored dropping second graders from this camp. In addition, it decided to require 3-year olds to be 3 by June 1 and potty-trained.
- The older camp, which the staff envisioned for children entering grades 3, 4, 5, and 6, became 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. The camp will feature block scheduling and campers will be divided into sections. They will have a homeroom, where they will start the day, have the first block activity, report for lunch and end the day. This will make scheduling easier and will provide continuity for both campers and parents.
- The core programs will run from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM and extended care will be offered both in the mornings and the afternoon.

6. Director's Report

- Calarco reported that the Department has experienced massive trip cancellations and problems with the other towns (Colchester, East Hampton, Marlborough) getting popular trips.
- Hartan agreed to discuss coaches' conduct for the girls basketball league with Josselyn.
- Calarco reviewed the Halloween Howl and considered it a success overall. He mentioned the improvements that would be made next year, based on the staff critique this year. Improvements mentioned included better lighting, one more non-scary scene, improved directions and a person in costume at the beginning would be good.
- He said his staff would be creating a 70' baseball field at Veterans' Park in the off season.
- There will be a Christmas Holiday Decoration event at Gilead Congregational Church with an enrollment limit of 50.
- The Department might sponsor a gardening contest in the spring.
- The primary agenda topics for the December Commission meeting will be the improvements to be made at Hebron Elementary and the Department's CIP budget proposal.
- Calarco discussed the possible move of the Department to the park operations building at Burnt Hill Park. At the moment, any move is on hold because the STEAP grant awarded to the Town is designated for historic restoration of the Peters House and town offices. A. Tierney, Acting Town Manager, wants to wait until after the upcoming election for Board of Selectmen to make any decisions. Poudrier will speak with Tierney to request that the matter be placed on the next BOS agenda.
- Calarco will be presenting his case for the hiring someone to fill the previously approved park maintainer position at the November 5 BOS meeting. Several commissioners expressed their intent to attend. Commissioners will be contacting BOS members to solicit support for the move.

Acceptance of September 21 Minutes

- Page 2, first line, *rate* should be *fee*.
- Page 2, second paragraph, *trail* should be *Howl*.
- Page 2, fifth paragraph "awarded to the *Town for the* Peters House."
- Page 2, seventh paragraph, "t-shirts *for the year* and."
- Page 3, first paragraph "a maximum and minimum *capacity* figures..."
- Page 3, third paragraph, *A. Smith* should be *A. Heneghan*.
- Page 3, fourth paragraph, "youth *sport* groups come ~~together~~ to the January Commission meeting."
- Page 3, Acceptance of Minutes, "copy 2-3 *weeks* sooner..."

Hartan moved to accept the minutes as amended, Smith seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with 1 abstention.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM following a motion by Hartan, a second by Natorki and a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Fitzpatrick and Eric Ott