

Milford Recreation Commission
August 9, 2006

Attendees:

Mary Albina	Larry Picket	Karla Lessard
Joan Dargie	Alberta Finch	Scott Hembrow
Rick Mossey	Walter Smith	Sophie Morrison

Swim Team:

Swim team parents were in attendance and presented information to the Commission about the season. Overall they felt that the season was successful with a few small glitches and one major glitch regarding the State Competition.

States: It was reported that a copy of the GSSA rules was provided to Nicole, Buffy and Mike Banks. Included in this packet of information was the date and time for submittal (Sun, 30 Jul, 5:00 p.m.) to the GSSA to qualify swimmers for the state competition. Since Buffy had not yet been trained on the swim team software, Mike volunteered to help manage the software for the team during the season. On Friday, all that need to be entered was one missing time and the relay team members so the complete report could be sent to GSSA. Mike did not send the information on time. It was sent Sunday evening after 9:00 because Buffy received a call from the GSSA at approx. 8:00 p.m., reporting that our times were late and the team could not compete. Buffy called Mike and he said that he had not sent the times. As a result, Buffy had to write a letter to GSSA asking for permission to compete. The team was allowed to compete for individual medals and ribbons but could not be considered in the standings for a team trophy and could very probably be placed on probation next year.

Mary stated that she felt that Buffy and Charlene did a great job despite the bumpy start to the season. They were excited to work with the kids and the swimmers really improved. She also felt that some changes need to be made to the management of the swim team. She feels that the Recreation Director micro managed the team which appeared to tie the hands of the coaches. No other program in the Department is managed with this amount of scrutiny. The suggestion provided to the Commission was to form a Swim Team Boosters type group that would manage the team in partnership with the coaches (fundraising, GSSA requirements, certifications, meet schedules, etc) and the Recreation Commission should be represented as well. This would free up the Rec. Director to manage the other programs. Walter stated that the swim coach next summer will have a copy of the computer software at home so that he/she can keep up with the swimmers' time entries etc.

Laptop: Larry asked who was in possession of the laptop that was purchased with Rec. Commission and Rec. Department money. This laptop was supposed to be used for the swim team during the 6 week season. He said he would research this.

Due to the fact that there is a great deal to discuss regarding the swim team, a separate meeting has been set for 27 Sep., 7:00.

Eagle Scout: Matt Clemons, an Eagle Scout in Milford, introduced a plan to construct a Band Stand at Keyes Park as his Eagle Scout Project. The commission thought it sounded like a good idea but would like him to continue to work on this idea, obtain more information, put a more detailed plan in place and come back to the committee.

Senior Programs:

Alberta stated that she would like to see more advertising for the coffee hours. She also reported that the trip for Aug was coming up on Tues. Registration is underway for the September trip – 4 people have signed up. There are no planned trips for Oct or Nov. She will look into trip ideas for Jan and Feb.

Director's Report:

No report was presented. – Nicole is out on maternity leave.

Concession:

Joan reported that overall the concession stand was successful. She asked that when the pool closes on 26 Aug, will the electricity and water remain on since the concession stand will still be open. Sophie said that she would check into it. She also reported that the freezer that we purchased for the ice cream is not designed for what we

need. As a result, we needed a new freezer and one of the other vendors provided one for the cost of \$250.00. The Enrichment Program paid for the freezer but she asked if the Commission wants to purchase it so that we would own all of the equipment in the concession stand in case we want to rent it out in the future to a different concessionaire. Walter suggested that we table this discussion until we see how the budget looks like after the summer season. She also asked if Sophie could look into keeping the bathrooms open at the pool house for the Cyclocross Race at the end of Sep.

Revolving Fund:

In the absence of the Recreation Director, the Revolving Fund manager defaults to Walter Smith as Chairman and to Scott Hembrow, Vice-Chair as reviewer.

Kaley Park:

Bill M. reported that the area has better access on foot to reach the area. He stated that it is beautiful as a great picnic area, boat launch and practice fields. Larry reported that the road is not yet drivable and there is no parking area. The discussion of the cemetery needing electricity near Kaley took place and Larry suggested that we should call Leighton White to see if there is a trade value for loam vs. the gravel on the site. It won't take much more labor or money to get the road improved. Larry recommended that we use the money that we already have earmarked for Kaley.

Pool:

Sophie asked the Commission for money to purchase the lifeguards an end of year gift. (\$30-sweatshirts) Mary made a motion to approve NTE \$400 for an end of year gift for the pool staff (Sophie and Karla too!). Joan 2nd. Unanimous vote carried the motion.

Sophie presented ideas for next summer based on what she learned this summer:

1. Pool rentals for private parties (scouts, birthdays etc)
2. Adult swim lessons
3. more Parent & Me classes and at different times to accommodate more families
4. Coupon booklet for pool passes
5. More movie nights instead of just one.

Skate Park:

Rick expressed his concern that Riders feel like they are getting blamed for the damage at the park (ie. The tree bark, trash etc.) The Riders are starting to feel like every time something bad happens at the Park, DPW wants to close it. He reiterated that not a single person arrested at the park was from Milford. He also said that he feels that the DPW and the Riders could make a difference if they would start working together instead of being adversarial.

Keyes Soccer Field:

Bill will meet with Dale White about getting started on the field with a payment plan in place. Looks like it will be a mid Sep. start. He also reported that SVU would be willing to donate money (\$8-10,000) to lay electricity underground at the field for future field lighting.

Adam's Field

Joan reminded the Commission that we need to make sure there is a port-a-potty at the field for the MMS Field Hockey and Cross-Country teams. Sophie will look into it.

Cameras:

Mary reported that a letter was drafted with Walter and Nicole to send to the vendors this week. The deadline for submittal is 30 Sep. We will review the vendors at our Oct meeting and make a recommendation to the BOS in time for budgeting options for 2007.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:35. Next meeting is set for September 13, 2006.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Albina, Secretary.

