



City of Ansonia

253 Main Street
Ansonia, Connecticut 06401

ANSONIA RECREATION COMMISSION

April 6, 2010

Regular Meeting

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Madeline H. Bottone
TOWN AND CITY CLERK
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

Present: Al Smith, Chairman
Steve Kichar
Tom Lynch
Jamie Puro
Paul Mengold – arrived 6:20 p.m.
Sean Rowley – arrived 6:50 p.m.

Absent: Lynda Williams

Others Present: Steve Blume, Acting Mayor
Jeff Coppola, Recreation Director
Donna Lindgren, ANC Director
Robert Beall, Alderman
Michael Schryver, Supt. PWD

The regular meeting of the Ansonia Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Smith.

All present rose and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll.

The chair declared a quorum present.

Public Session

Acting Mayor Steve Blume
City of Ansonia

Acting Mayor Blume stated he is present this evening to talk about the problems relating to money, rules and regulations of the Commission and the City of Ansonia. He said he wants to set the record straight on the funds. Mr. Miller came up with rules on how to handle the money

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collected and how to account for all monies (registration fees, fundraisers, etc.). He said the City wants Recreation and they will be keep giving the funds to the line items however the program executive boards and parents associations must make monthly reports to Joseph Miller and the Recreation Commission. All requests for payment must be accompanied by receipts and invoices. All the City is asking is that the Executive Boards and Parent's Associations give a monthly report on income and expense along with backup to the Commission.

Acting Mayor Blume continued stating there are only two towns in the State of Connecticut that gives the Recreation programs what Ansonia gives to our Recreation programs. The only request is that you provide to the Commission a monthly report of income and expense. The City doesn't want to keep begging for this information it should come to them.

Mr. Kichar said for the record that the Parent's Association is responsible to the Recreation Commission.

Acting Mayor Blume said they are responsible to Recreation Commission to get the information to Recreation Commission and Mr. Miller regarding their program every month. It should not have "snowballed" out of hand. Recreation has to have control of the Executive Boards and the Parent's Associations to be sure the problems are solved. He said he spoke with BOAT last night at their meeting and he told them he would attend the Recreation Commission meeting and explain that the monthly income and expense reports for each program (Exe. Board and Parents Assn.) must be submitted to the Recreation Commission and Mr. Miller. He said BOAT and the Board of Aldermen want to continue supporting the programs sponsored by the Recreation Commission but they must have a financial report of income and expense.

Michael Schryver
Supt. of Public Works

Mr. Schryver gave the commission members a Flyer on the upcoming Second Neighborhood Clean Up Day to be held in Ansonia on Saturday, April 17th.

Mr. Schryver said last year the Little League and Farm League participated in this event and cleaned up the concession stands and the fields. He said he is hoping to see them again this year. He said after the days events there will be a pizza party held at the Field for all those who worked.

Jeff Coppola said Opening Day for Little League is April 17th.

Mr. Steve Tamburino said they planned photos for that day.

Mr. Schryver said they would work around the Little League opening day. He said that the City has extended the dump hours that day.

Chairman Smith asked if there was anyone else from the public who wished to address the commission. There being no one, he called for a motion to close the public session.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to close the public session. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Reports: Donna Lindgren, ANC Director

Donna Lindgren requested to give her report at this time because she has another meeting to attend.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to deviate from the agenda to hear Ms. Lindgren's report. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Kichar stated that in the future all reports are to be handed in the Wednesday before the meeting so that they can be included in the packets that are mailed to the Commission members. This will give the members an opportunity to review everything before the meeting. He asked Ms. Lindgren to get her report to the secretary by Wednesday before the meeting.

Ms. Lindgren asked what happens if something comes up interim and the information packets have been mailed.

Mr. Kichar said it will be held until the next regular scheduled meeting.

Ms. Lindgren said the vacant position for custodian will be filled for 8 weeks as emergency status. She said she submitted a name to fill the position to Acting Mayor Blume for approval.

Ms. Lindgren said she is waiting for the Board of Aldermen to go forward with a Pre-School for the Red Wing Pond House. There is grant money there and it will not be released until the project is approved.

Ms. Lindgren said there was a break in at the Nature Center. They smashed a window to get a box of donation money. People have sent in money to replace the stolen money from the Donation Box.

Ms. Lindgren discussed the complaints from neighbors regarding the Community Gardens.

The secretary advised the Commission and Ms. Lindgren that the neighbors attended the IWC meeting last Thursday about the situation at the Gardens.

Ms. Lindgren said this year one gardener brought in chickens and things mushroomed. The Community Gardens need to get a new set of By-laws. She said she will draft them with the help of the Recreation Commission.

Mr. Kichar asked Ms. Lindgren to draft new rules for the community gardens. He said that the present rules are 30 years old and they need to be revised.

Ms. Lindgren said she would draft the By Laws with the City.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept Ms. Lindgren's report as presented. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Director's Reports

Baseball

Marty Mikos was present.

Mr. Mikos presented his schedule of games and list of coaches. He submitted to Mr. Coppola \$11,135 in registration fees.

Jan Stevens stated that the uniforms are ordered and will be ready on 4/15/10 in time for opening day which is 4/17/10.

Steve Tamburino said that Tim Steven submitted a quote for uniforms and the company wants a partial payment before they will order the uniforms.

Mr. Coppola said that is not how it is handled. A Purchase Order is prepared and once the uniforms are received, we will cut a check for payment.

Jan Stevens said they have pictures and they need the uniforms.

Mr. Coppola said it is easier and faster if you get an estimate/quote and when the bill comes in we will process it.

There was a discussion on P.O. and Vendor Copies and how the procedure should be handled.

Chairman Smith said they should get the P.O. and Mr. Coppola can run through the process and when the uniforms are ready he can go in and get them with a check.

Mr. Tamburino said the vendor can't wait 6 months for payment.

Mr. Coppola said that is not the City's fault. The person who did that last year is not longer with the Little League however the City is not to blame. We all know who did it.

Softball

Kathy Paskiewicz was present.

Ms. Paskiewicz said that softball doesn't have an opening day but they will do something for them later in the season. The season begins April 24th and April 25th.

Mr. Kichar asked if the Parent's Association was present this evening.

Ms. Paskiewicz said no.

Mr. Kichar asked if they submitted a monthly report and if they had done any fundraising.

Ms. Paskiewicz said no.

Mr. Kichar said the Wednesday before our meeting we need to have all reports and information submitted so that it is mailed in our packets.

Mr. Kichar said there was a fundraiser held at the Armory and that should be in a report. He said he asked for that last month in the report.

Ms. Paskiewicz said that she thought it was added into the report and given to the Commission.

Mr. Kichar said that it was not added in and the Commission doesn't have it. He suggested she put it in Mr. Coppola's box.

Mr. Tamburino said there is a request to use the Ansonia Middle School field.

Ms. Stevens said there is no change to the Parent's Assn. report from last months report.

Mr. Mikos said the Sign's at Nolan Field and the other fields are a fundraiser for the Parent's Association.

Mr. Kichar said that money goes to the City of Ansonia. He said the City will then give them back the money as they request it.

Soccer

Paul Velardi was present.

Mr. Velardi said soccer season begins 4/10/10 and ends 6/21/10. He submitted his roster and game schedules to the commission. He said the uniforms are ordered and delivered.

Mr. Velardi said that this is his last season as Soccer Director. He enjoyed it immensely but it has been very time consuming and detracting away from his job.

Mr. Velardi said that Chris Sheehy will take over as Soccer Director and he will help make it a smooth transition.

Chairman Smith suggested that Mr. Sheehy send in his request for the position so the Commission can act on it.

Mr. Kichar said there is no problem with Mr. Sheehy.

Mr. Velardi said the Youth 12 travel team uses the small field and the Youth 14 needs a field for games. He said he has some options: 1. Use Emmett O'Brien or 2. Use ANC and purchase a portable goal for \$2500 that will never be used again or 3. Cancel home games.

There was discussion on the above and it was decided that Mr. Coppola will contact Emmitt O'Brien and ask to use the field. Paul Velardi will give Mr. Coppola the schedule.

Mr. Kichar noted that the Premier Club Team has nothing to do with the City of Ansonia. He said that PWD takes care of their fields and Paul Velardi should be given first choice for use of the field.

Mr. Velardi discussed the finances for the Soccer Program stating the program will have an \$833 shortfall. His plan to catch up is outlined in his report. His plan will save \$1300 in the budget and they will close out the season with a zero balance.

Mr. Kichar asked the registration fees for the Spring/Fall seasons. The residents pay one fee in the Spring and that allows them to play both seasons – Spring and Fall.

Mr. Velardi said for in Town Teams the fee is \$50 for both seasons and it includes a uniform. For the Travel Team it is \$70 for both seasons.

Mr. Velardi said last year they were not aware the City cut the budget for soccer. If the City reduces the line item, they would want to know so they can adjust the registration fee to cover the difference.

Mr. Kichar said Mr. Velardi, Mr. Coppola and himself will sit down and go over the budget and the registration fees that need to be charged.

Mr. Velardi said this will have to be settled by the next registration.

Chairman Smith asked for a soccer schedule.

Mr. Kichar said that he will set up a meeting with himself, Mr. Beall, Mr. Coppola and Chris Sheehy to go over the fees and the line items.

Mr. Velardi said he will provide the schedules via e-mail to Mr. Coppola.

Mr. Kichar thanked Mr. Velardi.

Basketball

Mr. Coppola said there is no report for basketball. The Boys & Girls Club sponsored the Basketball program this year for everyone except the Instructional league.

Football

Jon Chryzanowski was present representing Fred Williams, AYF Director.

Mr. Chryzanowski said that the new Executive Board has not received anything from the previous Board. No money and no reports.

Mr. Kichar said the money and reports are six or seven months past due. He suggested the Commission look into having Corp. Counsel Blake send a letter.

Mr. Chryzanowski reviewed the information packet that was submitted to all commission members in their mailing for the meeting.

Mr. Kichar said a letter will be sent to the Board of Alderman requesting a waiver of the bid for Stadium Systems. He asked if all of the football equipment that was borrowed from the City to be used by the CT Speed School program has been returned to the AYF Director.

Mr. Coppola said Chris Phipps has all of his equipment. He will review the list of who hasn't returned their equipment and contact them again. Whatever is not returned will be turned over Corp. Counsel.

Mr. Kichar said to hold signups to get a feel for the number of kids that will be participating. He said that AYF will need to hold two or three sign up sessions.

Mr. Chryzanowski said he will conduct sign ups with the cooperation of the schools.

Mr. Kichar said there will be no money available until August.

Mr. Kichar said there is one coach for the 3rd grade and 4th grade team. He said they have to have separate 3rd grade team and 4th grade team coaches.

Mr. Beall said Recreation Commission should sponsor once a month an event where the coaches are able to interact with Coach Brockett and the high school coaches. There is an event April 21 at 6:00 p.m. with Coach Brockett. This will give the AYF coaches and the players an opportunity to learn from the high school coaches.

Reports: Donna Lindgren, ANC Director

Ms. Lindgren presented her report earlier in the meeting because of another meeting she had to attend.

Reports: Jeff Coppola, Recreation Director

Jeff Coppola was present.

Mr. Coppola said he will be away next week (4/10/10 through 4/17/10) on a Recreation Commission sponsored trip (EZ Travel Cruise) and he will be on vacation the following week. He said that Tuesday, April 13, 2010 all of the equipment must be returned to the Armory. On April 17, 2010 there is Clean Up Day.

Mr. Coppola said he would like to discuss the new format for Recreation Commission sponsored sport programs. He would like to propose that the programs keep their registration fees because they need money to run their programs daily as long as a monthly financial report is received by the Recreation Commission every month. This would have to be voted on by the Commission. He said this is the only way to do it – let them keep their registration fees and the City will give them a certain amount of funds.

Mr. Kichar said the Commission should do this for the May BOAT meeting and the May Board of Aldermen meeting.

Chairman Smith said in the beginning the registration money was turned over the City of Ansonia. Your recommendation is they keep their registration money. How can Recreation Commission control the money and make sure it is accountable.

Mr. Kichar said to solve the problem with Little League and Soccer we need to do it at a Special Meeting. He asked Mr. Coppola if the Stadium Systems invoice for \$3774.85 and the All Star Bus invoice for 630 were paid.

Mr. Coppola said these invoices were paid. The commission voted on them last month. This situation with Mr. O'Reilly and the paid bills for Stadium Systems and All Star Bus is over. The bills are paid.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept Mr. Coppola's report as presented. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Minutes

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept as written and place on file the minutes of the March 2, 2010 meeting. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Bills

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| 1. Ever Ready Press for J. Coppola business cards | \$40 |
| 2. Ever Ready Press for AYF Flyers: | \$120 |
| 3. Blanchettes for Little League Baseballs: | \$560 |
| 4. B&L Men's Store quote for Instructional League Uniforms: | \$1500 |

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| 5. Pilgrim Bar B Q end of year Party for Basketball: | \$100 |
| 6. Massimino's Pizza for end of year party for Basketball: | \$200 |
| 7. Babe Ruth Registration: | \$423 |
| 8. Jeff Coppola (gas reimbursement - \$25 a week) | |

Mr. Kichar made a motion to approve payment to Jeff Coppola \$25 a week for gas usage. Mr. Rowley seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to pay all bills if found to be correct. Mr. Rowley seconded. All in favor, so carried.

CIAC Tournament

Mr. Kichar made a motion to allow Luba Soldra to be the Site Director for the CIAC Tournament Games at Nolan Field. Mr. Rowley seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Correspondence

1. Christine Boulay, Cultural Commission re: Summer Concert at the ANC. dtd. 3/25/10

Mr. Kichar made a motion to approve the Summer Concerts as long as Ms. Boulay works out the dates with Mr. Coppola and Ms. Lindgren and there are no scheduling conflicts with Recreation and ANC programs. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

2. Beth Lynch re: request to reserve the Armory for Thursday 5/20/10 for St. Rep. Linda Gentile for Veteran's Service.

Mr. Rowley made a motion to approve the request for the use of the Armory on 5/20/10 for the Veteran's Service. Mr. Kichar seconded. All in favor, so carried.

3. Liz Nimons request to use the ANC for Prendergast School Spring Field Days. Dated 3/25/10

Mr. Rowley made a motion to approve the request and forward it to the Public Works Dept. so they can cut the grass. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

4. Tim O'Reilly re: Ansonia Youth Football. Dtd. 3/10/10

Mr. Rowley made a motion to accept the e-mail and place on file. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

5. Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley re: request to use Nolan Field on 6/19/10 for their Fanfare for Kids event. Dtd. 3/12/10

Mr. Kichar said the football field needs repair work and he is not sure it can be used by anyone.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to table this request. Mr. Rowley seconded. All in favor, so carried.

6. Steve Kichar to BOAT re: football invoices. Dtd. 3/11/10

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept and place on file. Mr. Rowley seconded. All in favor, so carried.

7. Paul Velardi re: resignation as Director of Ansonia Soccer programs. Dtd. 4/5/10

Mr. Rowley made a motion to accept and place on file. Mr. Kichar seconded. All in favor, so carried.

8. Ansonia Soccer Club Program Report submitted by Paul Velardi dated 4/6/10

Mr. Rowley made a motion to accept and place on file. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

9. Little League Game Schedule for Coach Pitch Division 2010 Ansonia/Derby, Minor League Schedule and Major League Schedule

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept and place on file and forward to PWD. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

10. Softball Game Schedule for Ansonia Blue Blaze 2010

Mr. Lynch made a motion to accept and place on file and forward to PWD. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

11. Marty Mikos, President of Little League – List of Managers for Major League and Minor League. Dtd. 4/6/10

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept the coaches for the Major and Minor League Little League Program. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

12. Fred Williams, AYF Football President re:
 1. April Report for AYF & C for 2010-2011 Season. dated 3/31/10
 2. Team Leader Quote for Ansonia Youth Football uniforms March 2010 (4 options)
Recommended option 2A - \$6,862.10
 3. Cheerleading.Company Estimate #1058377 - \$8,173.80

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept and approve the April Report, Team Leader Quote for Ansonia Youth Football, March 2010 (quote for uniforms) and Cheerleading.Company Estimate 1058377 for Cheer uniforms. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

13. Fred Williams, AYC&C Football coaches for 2010-2011 Season. Dtd. 3/31/10

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept and approve the football coaches as presented. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

14. Fred Williams, AYC&C Executive Board of 2010-2011 Season dtd. 3/31/10

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept and approve the Executive Board as presented. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

15. Thank You from Sean Rowley for fruit basket.

Mr. Mengold asked if the coaches and staff that were approved this evening report to the Recreation Commission or to their own agents.

Mr. Kichar said the Little League has their own rules and regulations however the Recreation Commission over sees the program. The City funds all Recreation programs.

Mr. Mengold asked if the Directors and Coaches are required to have CPR training and if there are background checks done for each and every one of the coaches and Directors.

Mr. Mikos said they have background checks.

Any other business to come before the Commission

Appointment Site Director – CIAC

Mr. Kichar made a motion to appoint Luba Soldra as Site Director for the CIAC Tournament Games and to send a letter to Ms. Soldra copied to Public Works Dept. If Mr. Schryver and Mr. Balisano don't want Ms. Soldra as the Site Director then the CIAC cannot use the field. Mr. Rowley seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Rowley asked Mr. Mengold how the City can be reimbursed for the field preparation done by the Public Works Dept.

Mr. Mengold said there is a form for field use where you can put in the fees charged for the maintenance, etc. of the field. This form has to be submitted to the CIAC. He said the cutoff date is coming up shortly so the form should be submitted quickly.

A discussion followed on the fees paid by the CIAC for the use and maintenance of the field for the CIAC Tournaments.

Waive of Bid for Football Equipment

Mr. Kichar made a motion to send a letter to the Board of Aldermen requesting to waive the bid for Stadium Systems for the reconditioning of the equipment and the purchase of new equipment. They have done a good job for Ansonia. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Alderman Representative

Mr. Robert Beall, Aldermanic representative to the Recreation Commission was present. He requested that he receive a packet the same as the commission members. Address: 190 Howard Avenue, Ansonia

Recreation Commission Meeting Information Packets

Mr. Kichar said that in the future all information must be submitted to Mr. Coppola for the meeting on the Wednesday before the meeting so that it can be included in the packets that are mailed to the members.

Mr. Kichar said this will give the members an opportunity to read the information and know what is happening so that it can be discussed and decided upon at the meeting.

Mr. Kichar said that the Parent's Associations monthly reports must be submitted and included in the monthly packets. All of the Director reports should be submitted and included in the packets. That includes Ms. Lindgren's and Mr. Coppola's reports.

Chairman Smith said that Mr. Coppola should be meeting with the Directors and speaking with them at least once a week so that everyone is on the same page. This will enable the commission to know what is happening and be able to handle any situation.

Mr. Kichar said that some of the league directors have to be at the field if there are games being played by their program. They can't be at the field and here at the meeting.

Chairman Smith said the League Director could send a representative to the meeting if he can't attend. The Commission had a rule that a representative must attend the Recreation Commission meeting every month so that if there is a question or a problem there is someone present to answer the questions of the Commission. He said that the Director should be at the Recreation Commission meeting when they are in season. The others don't have to be here.

Mr. Kichar said they will be here at the meetings so if we have questions they can answer.

Chairman Smith agreed they should be in attendance in case the Commission has questions.

Mr. Kichar said the Program Reports must be in the monthly package and the League will have a representative here at the meeting.

Mr. Mengold suggested the other programs use the Soccer Report as a footprint so that everyone will have the same report.

Mr. Kichar said the commission will have to sit down and discuss the reports and format.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. to go over the program structure. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Jan Stevens stated the Baseball program has Opening day the same day as the Clean Up Day Event. They have their picture fundraiser that day also.

Mr. Kichar said that the Clean Up Day Event will not interfere with Opening Day.

There was a discussion on the condition of the fields in Ansonia.

Adjourn

Mr. Rowley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Secretary