



City of Ansonia

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TOWN AND CITY CLERK
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ANSONIA RECREATION COMMISSION

December 6, 2011

Regular Meeting

Present: Al Smith, Chairman
Nicole Carlowitz
Michael Cratty
Steve Kichar
Tom Lynch
Jamie Puro

Others Present: Jeff Coppola, Recreation Director
Donna Lindgren, ANC Director
Robert Beall, Alderman

The regular meeting of the Ansonia Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairman Smith.

All present rose and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll. There was a quorum present.

Director's Reports

1. Football

Jon Chryzanowski was present.

Mr. Chryzanowski asked if the Commission could table Football until later in the meeting because Mr. Fred Williams would be here shortly.

Chairman Smith said the Commission will take up Football later in the meeting when Mr. William arrives.

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2. Soccer

Mr. Coppola said that Mr. Sheehy was working late this evening and may not be able to attend the meeting.

3. Baseball & Softball

Mr. Coppola said that Marty Mikos called him and told him he would be unable to attend the meeting this evening.

4. Basketball

Mr. Coppola said the Boys and Girls Club is running the boys basketball program. He is running the 5,6,7 year old program in the Armory. He said there are 75 to 85 kids registered and everything is going well. The Girls program is down in numbers and he is working with Derby Recreation Director to combine the leagues.

Public Session

There was no one present for the public session.

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

Reports: Donna Lindgren, ANC Dir.

Donna Lindgren is present.

Ms. Lindgren apologized for the late submission of her report to the Commission.

Ms. Lindgren showed the members a 2012 calendar that the Friends of the Nature Center is selling. It is pictures of the Nature Center. The calendars including printing costs were donated by two people from Ansonia as a fundraiser. The cost is \$21 each. She is accepting orders if anyone wants to purchase one.

Ms. Lindgren reviewed her information packet with the Commission members. She said she received a memo for the new budget year and she feels she has given Mr. Miller the information on what she feels is needed at the Nature Center. She discussed grants for the Nature Center that would be helpful in financing some of the things that are needed there. There was a very nice letter from the Rivera family. The Red Wing Pond house will be hosting an Open House this Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Nature Day Classes will be held 4 days this year December 27, 2011 through December 30, 2011.

The public schools will not have a February vacation so the Nature Day Classes will be held this December.

Ms. Lindgren gave everyone a Winter Calendar of Events for the Nature Center. She told Mr. Coppola she would put any registration dates he has in the January Calendar of Events if he gets them to her.

Ms. Lindgren said the City of Ansonia received a check for the burned Pavilion. Public Works Dept. said that the amount is not enough money to rebuild the pavilion. She asked the PWD Superintendent Mike Schryver if they could put the money aside for next year and then add to it. He said that would not be a problem it could be done. The insurance policy had a \$10,000 deductible. The check was for \$24,000. The insurance company estimated it would cost \$34,000 to rebuild.

Chairman Smith said he has attended a few events held at the Ansonia Nature Center and they were very nice. The programs sponsored at the Nature Center are a change of pace and venue and are really good programs. It was a pleasure to see the children enjoying them. It was also good to see as an adult. It lets you know there are other activities besides football, basketball and baseball for enjoyment. There are a lot of people from Ansonia going up to the Nature Center. He suggested the members visit the Nature Center for a change of pace.

Alderman Beall discussed the cost to rebuild the pavilion with Ms. Lindgren.

Mr. Puro made a motion to accept Donna Lindgren's report as submitted. Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Reports: Jeff Coppola, Recreation Director

Jeff Coppola is present.

Mr. Coppola said that he gave most of his report earlier in the meeting. He said the North Star event went well this past Sunday. Everything else is going smoothly.

Deviate from the Agenda

Chairman Smith called for a motion to deviated from the agenda to take up Football and Soccer at this time.

Mr. Lynch moved to deviate from the agenda to take up Football and Soccer. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Soccer

Chris Sheehy was present.

Mr. Sheehy said that there is no report this month because the soccer program is finished for the Fall season. Everything went well. He did not send a Financial Report because it is the same, there has been nothing new since the last report. He did send a Financial Report to Mr. Miller explaining that Soccer is in the "off season".

Football

Jon Chryzanowski and Fred Williams are present.

Mr. Williams said the Girls Cheer squads went to Florida to compete in Nationals and the Youth 14 and the Youth 12 came in 1st Place in the National trials.

Mr. Williams said he has made calls to the Mayor's office and sent e-mails to Tara Kolakowski to see if the City can do something special for the two squads that won the Nationals. He will advise the Commission once he hears from Ms. Kolakowski.

Mr. Williams said the boys' season is complete. They held the Orange Bowl with Hudson Valley and there were four rounds of overtime. He said both the teams showed fantastic sportsmanship. Both teams enjoyed refreshments after the game.

Mr. Williams said the Sports Banquet is scheduled for January 28th and January 29th at Assumption Hall. He said they may have to change the plans and hold something in the Armory. He is not sure yet. The Uniforms will be collected this Saturday Dec. 10th. He said he received a call from Kevin Rowley to see if any of the boys and girls were interested in going up to Rentschler Field to see the game. They would split the buses with AYF. He said that was a nice gesture from the AHS staff. He said each child from AYF going to the game would have to have a chaperone, they could not go alone without an adult.

Mr. Williams said he sent out his reports and Mr. Miller has his financial report for October. They are one month behind but he is aware of this and is happy with the reports.

There was a discussion on volunteers for the AYF program. There are not enough of the parents coming forward to help out at the field and the Concession Stand. They have lost their non-profit status because of the problems in the past with the former group and they are still in the midst of straightening everything out with the IRS. They can't receive any cash or material donations. Their Attorney said he is confident it will be straightened out soon. They need to get the Concession stand repaired. Mr. Kichar has a list of the volunteers that will do the work once everything is straightened out with the IRS.

Commission members and Mr. Williams discussed who will attend the banquet this year for the AYF Program. Mr. Kichar said he is concerned that they invited parents whether they volunteered or not to help the Program. If there is a volunteer on the field they didn't bring funds into the organization however they provided much needed assistance to the program. Mr. Williams said there is not enough money to hold a full banquet at Assumption Hall. He said he has to check into the funds.

Mr. Kichar said that the President, Vice-President, Cheer Coordinator and the Football Coordinator along with the child, Board and only those who volunteered should be invited to the Banquet.

The discussion continued on what duties are considered volunteering for the program. Volunteers who did a lot of the work for the children and the program should be invited to attend the Banquet and those who didn't do any volunteering should have to pay for their dinner.

Ms. Carlowitz said how can you hold a Pizza Party for the children and give out their trophies and jackets and not allow the parents to come and see their children receive their awards.

Mr. Kichar said there was a meeting held in the beginning of the season where they were told if they don't participate in the program and volunteer they don't deserve to attend the banquet at the end of the year.

Mr. Williams said the boys and girls who participated in the program can attend the banquet along with their parents.

Ms. Carlowitz said the parents will pay who don't volunteer. That's how it has been.

Alderman Beall said that parent volunteers and participation in the program has been at an all time low this year.

Mr. Coppola said that the Program should consider charging a fee in lieu of volunteering and if the parent volunteers they get the fee refunded.

Mr. Kichar said at the beginning of the season he gave them the rules and the rules were changed – not by him.

Chairman Smith said next year the Executive Board should come up with the rules for the Parents and make sure they all receive a copy so there is no misunderstanding of who goes and who pays.

Mr. Williams said there will be a meeting with the trophy vendor on Thursday December 8th. The Cheer group may want something special for winning the Nationals.

Mr. Kichar suggested Mr. Williams get in touch with Repr. Linda Gentile to get something from the State of Connecticut for the Girls squads that won at Nationals.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Puro made a motion to accept as written and place on file the minutes of the November 9, 2011 meeting. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Approval of Bills

Mr. Coppola presented the following bills.

1. Amy Butler: Stipend for Cheer Coordinator - \$400
2. Steve Cavanaugh: Stipend for Football Coordinator – \$360
3. Chris Sheehy: Stipend for Soccer Coordinator - \$750
4. Mike Floran: Stipend for Instructional Basketball program (5 Wk course) - \$200
5. Don Palmer: Stipend for Instructional Basketball program(5 Wk course) - \$300

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

Correspondence

There was no correspondence this month.

Any other business to come before the Commission

2012 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Puro made a motion to adopt the 2012 Meeting Schedule as presented. Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

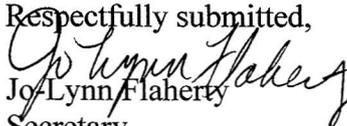
Executive Session (if needed)

None

Adjourn

Mr. Cratty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Mr. Puro seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Secretary