

ANSONIA RECREATION COMMISSION

July 2, 2013

Regular Meeting

Present: Al Smith, Chairman
Michael Cratty
Steve Kichar
Tom Lynch
Steve Sobolisky

Absent: Jamie Puro

Others Present: Donna Lindgren, ANC Director

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

All present rose and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll.

There was a quorum present.

Director Reports

Football

Mr. Kichar said the Zuraw Camp was held this weekend. The numbers were low this year because of the rain dates for Little League make up games. There were 45 people who attended the Camp.

Mr. Kichar gave an update on the AYF Football program. He said there are 101 girls registered for Cheerleading and last year there were 54. There are 135 boys registered for football and last year there were 121. The boys that have registered are those that play with pads, there are some

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flag football registered. He said he will have a breakdown for the commission at the August meeting. Football begins conditioning August 5th.

Mr. Kichar said the 4th grade squad needs a coach. He said that Steve Sobolisky came forward and volunteered to serve as the 4th grade football coach.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to appoint Steve Sobolisky as the 4th grade football coach. Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Kichar said Mr. Chryzanowski ordered the football equipment that was needed. He ordered 80 shoulder pads and 80 helmets and uniforms for the team. The cost is about \$21,000. He said the girls will be sized on July 8th and Blanchette's will order their uniforms. The cost will be about \$6,000 to \$7,000 for the extra uniforms.

Mr. Kichar said that Mr. Sobolisky covered the Spring practice session.

Mr. Sobolisky said that his 4th grade team practiced along side of the 5th grade team and they did well. He said they were not allowed to use Nolan field so there was no one else there but the 4th and 5th grade teams. He said he is light with his numbers, the roster had 14 kids. He said he spoke to Jon to get something going at Prendergast School. Jon took the 3rd and 4th grade kids out for an hour and spoke to them about the program. This was very helpful to the AYF program.

There was discussion on some of the third grade boys who have registered to play Flag football. There are three boys who are big boys for third grade and they are considering allowing them to play with the 4th grade team.

Mr. Kichar said that conditioning will begin August 5, 2013 through August 12, 2013. The players not paid in full by August 12th will not be given equipment and will not be allowed to practice.

Mr. Kichar said they are requesting to use Nolan Field from August 5th through August 9th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. unless there is rain. Pads will be August 12th. There is no Monday practice and there may be an optional Saturday game. The cheerleaders will be at Nolan Field until September and then they go to the Armory.

Mr. Sobolisky asked the number of hours the team practices when school begins.

Mr. Kichar said it is eight hours during the week and it is not combined with the games. He said they will go over all of the details with Mr. Sobolisky at the AYF meeting. He asked if any of the commissioners had any questions. There were none.

Mr. Cratty made a motion to accept the Football Report. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Soccer

Mr. Kichar said he spoke with Mr. Sheehy and everything is going well. The Financial Report is in the monthly packet.

Baseball & Softball

Mr. Robert DeFelice, Softball Director was present.

Mr. DeFelice said that the All Star Team just finished their games. They had trophies for the Tee Ball league and the Coach Pitch received Tee Shirts which the parents liked. He said the Derby girls received Derby Softball Tees also and the program received compliments from the girls and their parents. They enjoyed the season and want to come back.

There was discussion on whether the baseball program was going to take a trip to see a professional game i.e. the Rockettes. Last year the entire league went to see them. Mr. DeFelice said they offered a trip to Bridgeport or New Britain but there was no interest.

Mr. Kichar noted that Derby said the kids participating in the program all had fun and want to play again next year. He suggested that Mr. Mikos and Mr. DeFelice get together with Derby and look into combining the program.

Mr. DeFelice said that both towns need to consider combining the programs because neither has enough players. He will look into it.

Mr. DeFelice said they hosted four major games and everything went smooth. The scoreboard and P.A. system is working and they have to install a lock on the window.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept the Softball report. Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Public Session

Chairman Smith asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to address the commission.

Andrew Kovacs
CT P.A.S.T.S.

Mr. Kovacs said that he investigates places that are said to be haunted. He said he investigated the Sterling Opera House in Derby. He has spoken with Mr. Coppola and he is interested in the Ansonia Armory and would like to go into the Armory and investigate it.

There was some discussion on the above and the commission suggested that Mr. Kovacs speak with the Board of Aldermen.

Chairman Smith asked if there was anyone else 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. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Reports: Jeffrey Coppola, Recreation Director

Mr. Coppola is not present this evening, he is on vacation.

Reports: Donna Lindgren, Ansonia Nature Center Director

Ms. Lindgren was present.

Ms. Lindgren reviewed her report and the activities at the Ansonia Nature Center with the Commissioners. She said that the John Adzima Day was a wonderful day for everyone. Mr. Adzima was a good friend of the Nature Center and the Friends of John Adzima held a celebration. There were about 80 people in attendance.

Ms. Lindgren asked if anything has been done with the proposed new Park Ordinance.

Mr. Kichar said no, not since the last time everyone was together. Mr. Blake was to get in touch with everyone.

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept the report as presented by Ms. Lindgren. Mr. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Committee Reports

There are no committee reports this month.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Kichar made a motion to accept as written and place on file the minutes of the June 4, 2013 Regular meeting. Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Approval of Bills

Mr. Kichar said there were no bills. He said he signed P.O.'s for the end of the year for next year's equipment.

There was discussion on the bills for the end of the year. Mr. Kichar will have Mr. Coppola submit a report.

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

Correspondence

None

Any other business to come before the commission

Mr. Kichar said that the Commission is short a member. He said if anyone knows someone, please talk to them and see if they will be willing to serve.

Mr. Lynch asked about the mulch for the playgrounds and the sand for the sandboxes at Nolan Field playground. He said the sandboxes at Nolan Field need sand and the entire playground at Nolan Field (swings, etc.) needs to be mulched.

There was a discussion on the above and on Abe Stone Park. Mr. Lynch noted that Colony Pond was dredged last year and the work there was never completed. He said that park could be a real nice place for the community. The soccer fields were put in at Abe Stone Park and are being used.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to send a letter to the Board of Public Works asking that they put mulch on the Playground at Nolan Field and Abe Stone Park and sand in the sandboxes at Nolan Field Playground. Mr. Kichar seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Executive Session

None

Adjourn

Mr. Kichar made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Secretary