



# City of Ansonia

253 Main Street  
Ansonia, Connecticut 06401

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ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

## ANSONIA RECREATION COMMISSION

May 3, 2016

Regular Meeting

Present: Al Smith, Chairman  
Michael Cratty  
Jeff Devine  
Anne Lynch  
Timothy O'Reilly  
Steve Sobolisky  
Paul Velardi

Others Present: Jeff Coppola, Recreation Director  
Alison Rublemann, ANC Director  
Matt Edo, 6<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman  
Richard Kaslaitis, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman  
Joan Radin, 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Smith at 5:30 p.m.

All present rose and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll and there was a quorum present.

## **Executive Session – Personnel**

Ms. Lynch made a motion to go into Executive Session at 5:34 p.m. Mr. Velardi seconded. Invited into Executive Session: Keith Maynard, Alderman Edo, Alderman Kaslaitis, Corp. Counsel John Marini, and Rec. Director Jeff Coppola. All in favor, so carried.

Anyone that was not invited to attend the Executive Session left the room.

Ms. Lynch made a motion to go back into Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Cratty seconded. There were no votes taken during Executive Session. All in favor, so carried.

## **Recreation Policies: Background checks & Approval of Boards**

The Commissioners discussed the Board of Aldermen Recreation Volunteer Background Check Policy. Mr. Coppola stated on the last page, item VII Administration and Enforcement: “The City of Ansonia’s Recreation Director, working under the supervision of the Ansonia Recreation Department, shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this program.” He said I will not be responsible for the administration and enforcement of the background check program.

Ms. Lynch stated all of the leagues will be responsible for getting the background checks and handing them into the Mayor’s office. They will be responsible for the administration and enforcement. Every sport will have to have a background check for all of their volunteers. It will be the responsibility of the President of the league to bring the applications for background checks to the Mayor’s office or to Jeff Coppola to get them processed. The Mayor’s office will do the background checks.

Mr. Velardi said on page 1, section 3.1 if the Board of Recreation is responsible then the Recreation Director will be responsible. If the Mayor’s office will be responsible then the language must be changed.

Ms. Lynch said everything will go through the Mayor’s office.

Mr. Velardi stated this is the approved document and we have to operate under this or get it modified.

Ms. Lynch asked Mr. Coppola to send the wording that needs to be changed to Alderman Edo so he can meet with the Ordinance Committee and modify the Policy.

There was discussion on the Mayor's office conducting the background checks and who will be responsible for administering and enforcing the policy. Mr. Coppola stated the Mayor's office will do the administration and enforcement of the Background Checks and Policy.

Mr. Sobolewski discussed Section IV – e stating that section gives discretion. He asked who will be administrating that section.

Mr. Coppola stated the Mayor's office will do that. If they find a negative they handle it. He has an assistant and they will do all of them. They will go through the applications, submit them and then review them when they are returned.

Ms. Lynch said the Mayor's office found a company that will run the background checks and if any come back negative they will inform Mr. Coppola. All forms handed in to Mr. Coppola will be sent to the Mayor's office for processing.

Mr. Coppola stated that III Programs, item #1 has to be changed to read the Mayor's office.

The discussion continued as to the changes that must be made in the policy to comply with how the Policy is being administered. All paperwork and background checks will remain in the Mayor's office. The commissioners agreed that there is no policy as written because it is not being followed as written. Mr. Coppola will bring it to the Board of Aldermen's Ordinance Committee to have it corrected.

Mr. Velardi made a motion to have the Recreation Director clarify Item 3.1. It will now be conducted by the City of Ansonia, Mayor's Office rather than the Recreation Commission. Mr. Sobolewski seconded.

Ms. Lynch stated that Mr. Coppola will send an e-mail to the Board of Aldermen Ordinance Committee advising them of this change.

Chairman Smith called for a vote: All were in favor. The motion carried.

## **Approval of Minutes - 04/05/16 Special Meeting**

Mr. Devine made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2016 special meeting with the following correction:

Page 16, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph should read: Mr. Devine stated that the Recreation Commission does not have any say in the Recreation Director's salary.

Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

## **Approval of Boards**

Ms. Lynch made a motion to approve all the program Executive Boards under the Director's Reports. Mr. Velardi seconded. All in favor, so carried.

## **Public Session**

Ms. Lynch advised those present that those addressing the Commission during the public session will be limited to 3 minutes.

Lisa Arnold  
8 Cook St.  
Ansonia, CT

Ms. Arnold said that she had a four page typed letter to read to the commission but out of respect for the Chair she will not read that letter. She said she will read another letter she prepared.

Ms. Arnold stated: (taken from a typed statement read by Ms. Arnold)  
"I'm here tonight to stand up for what's right and support Keith Maynard. I hope the Rec Board agrees and makes the right choice for this program. Keith has went above and beyond and has proven to everybody that he is 100% dedicated.

The terms fighting, bickering, and animosity have surfaced in the past few months at these meetings. The reason for these particular words being thrown at him is because he's had to defend himself and the program on numerous occasions. Whether it's been a Board of Rec meeting, Board of Alderman meeting or being constantly blasted in an e-mail amongst adults it's a constant battle of him

defending himself or the program. I have spoken to the mayor and he is on video agreeing with me.

Ms. Arnold said the only one not backing Keith is the Cheer. (At this point she could not continue reading and Ms. Lemaire continued reading the statement)

Ashley Lemaire  
170 Beaver St. Apt B  
Ansonia, CT.

Ms. Lemaire continued reading:

“There are just a handful of people that one way or another simply have it out for him, of which only one has a child in the program. In some way it’s harassing. I believe him to be very humble even throughout this grueling process.

Last year after being put on the Executive Board he was asked by your Board of Rec members to do two things to help turn this program around and watch how the money was being spent. Keith has brought transparency, honest and equality. Parents are very pleased with him and the improvement of communication. He had parents asking about fundraising, how money was divided and how it was being spent. They liked the new honesty and the openness of the program. These parents are all behind him it’s still just those few on the Boards with the problem.

The Pop Warner program is starting to land on their feet even with no money yet from the 2015 account. As discussed at the last meeting it was talked about for Keith to start the process with the Secretary of the State and the EIN#. Since then he has retrieved all of the legal documents and they are up and running with all of the documents and a checking account, all attached to Keith’s name and SS#.

He is constantly being stopped by individuals and it is affecting the program. Stopped for What? Personality conflicts? Is this really about the kids?

Lastly, registrations are going on today for both programs and the same questions keep getting brought up by parents saying did you walk away from Cheer? When Cheer actually walked away in mid-season from the same program that football was in. Why are there no repercussions for that? There has been nothing fair about any of this. Truly it is biased. Thank you.”

Ms. Lemaire stated that she supports Mr. Maynard and the children are missing out on a wonderful guy.

Shane Edmonds  
505 Beaver St.  
Ansonia, CT

Mr. Edmonds stated his uncle was Howard Tinney and he always stated “everybody deserves a second chance in life.” He continued stating we are here for the children. We are not here to back stab. We are here to have the children grow. Everyone deserves a second chance. You can check every year on what these people do but you have to give them a chance. He said he is deaf and he proved people wrong by playing when they thought he couldn’t play. His Father always said to give back, we are here to work as a team. Everybody deserves a second chance. We are here to help the kids grow.

Sakini DePina  
29 Lester St.  
Ansonia, CT

Ms. DePina stated there are a lot of disrespectful people on the Rec Board. She said she works two jobs, has three children, she supports Keith Maynard and supports football. She doesn’t hate Cheer but she stated there are members of the Recreation Board that are very disrespectful.

She said that she doesn’t speak behind anyone’s back and is standing for what is right. She said they requested a bank statement from AYF Cheer and did not receive a statement. She continued that on the Recreation Board the members are disrespectful. The Board should get it together because they are not doing what is right for the kids.

William Sanders  
151 N. State St.  
Ansonia, CT

Mr. Sanders said the kids are getting lost and it is about the kids. He said settle the problem, it is ridiculous, this going back and forth. He said there will be no football

program if this continues. He asked if this is what they want for the Town, all this madness and at the bottom is the kids being forgotten. He said words speak madness, there are issues and they fight every single issue. There is two months to get this together or there will not be a football season. Everyone disagrees and we are allowed to disagree but they are going where there will not be a program and it is about the kids. We have to get the website up. There are 34 kids enrolled and we have to come together as a town and work for the program.

Haneefah Burrell  
N. Main St.  
Ansonia, CT

Ms. Burrell said that Cheer had a phenomenal season and Cheer coaches were great with her girls. She said what is happening now is not about the kids but about power. She said she is questioning the position of leadership with the Board of Recreation. She said where do you turn at an impasse. The members of the Board take to social media with blatant racial comments directly targeting her child. She said how many people have had a criminal history, we are talking violence, robbery and who's questioning it. Who's willing to sit with me on the racist comments made? She said what is policy. She feels they should be immediately removed because the larger part of the Program is brown children.

Jason St. Jacques  
66 Vine St.  
Ansonia, CT

Mr. St. Jacques said Keith Maynard is a dear friend of his. He is dedicated to the program and willing to put the time and work in. He said he doesn't know the personal issues. He said he went through the Program and we are all here for the kids. Most towns have By-laws and procedures and most boards have a set of rules to go by. He said it should not have gone to social media. Mr. Maynard was a past coach and he is a man willing to put his time in for the program. He said he doesn't see anyone else willing to do this. Who will step up and run the program, let him do it and if he fails, then we move on. Mr. St. Jacques stated he supports Mr. Maynard.

Kente Dufus  
55 Beaver St.  
Ansonia, CT

Mr. Dufus said he agrees with a lot of the things said but he is here to make sure the kids go right. He is here 110% for the kids, he doesn't care about the adults – it is for the kids.

Harry Danley  
52 N. Cliff St.  
Ansonia, CT 06401

Mr. Danley said he agrees with the background checks. He said he would like to bring up drug testing for the volunteers and coaches. This is very important in addition to the background checks. He said he was a volunteer for eight years and he loves the kids. He said that drugs are big in the Valley.

Keith Maynard  
8 Cook St.  
Ansonia, CT

Mr. Maynard said he is before the Commission for approval for the Football Board. He discussed a letter and e-mail that was written that was inappropriate and nothing was done to quiet the situation. He said on the football site there were issues discussed regarding West Point and the parents and coaches and all of the issues were addressed by him. He displayed leadership during this situation. He said he served five terms on the Board of Aldermen and was in DOT leadership positions and a non-paid volunteer. He is asking the Recreation Commission for their support. He has taken the football program from the ground and started the process. He has great ideas and is asking for Recreation support. He said any issues we will work out. No one stepped up to run the program. He said he stepped up last year in the Vice-President position to run the program and they had a successful year. Thank you.

Jenny Romanowski  
98 Jewett St.  
Ansonia, CT

Ms. Romanowski said she has three boys and one girl in the program. She supports Cheer they are there for the kids. She said the Football program she hasn't seen anyone put more into a program than Keith Maynard. What will be the next step for the program if Keith is not the President? She said we are not going to have a program.

Ms. Lynch asked three (3) times if there was anyone else who wished to address the Commission. There being no one she closed the public session.

**Reports: Alison Rublemann, ANC Dir.**

Alison Rublemann was present.

Ms. Rublemann reviewed her report with the Commission members. She stated that Earth Day was held Saturday at the Nature Center. They held a tree planting and the Ansonia Cheer group along with the Keystone Leaders Club from the Boys & Girls club participated. They worked together planting the tree in the park. They helped each other, shared shovels and had fun. She said we want them to feel the pride in our Community. The kids know what is going on and we need to come together as a community for the children.

Ms. Rublemann said the playground is gone and they are having a lot of hits to their Facebook page and other fundraising events. There is \$50,000 in the budget but they need \$150,000 for the playground. The Friends have raised about \$30,000 so far. She reminded everyone that the Great Give is on. She explained that she has written letters to Valley Community Foundation, Sen. Crisco and Repr. Gentile and the Valley Chamber of Commerce and she is actively seeking donations through various groups. She said that there has been some cancellations of programs because the playground is down.

Ms. Rublemann said that this Saturday she will be at Gatison Park to build the Butterfly Park. The event will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Gatison Park.

Ms. Lynch asked if the volunteers at the Nature Center have to follow the background policy.

Ms. Rublemann said that she has a lot of volunteers and it would be important for them to follow the policy.

Mr. Coppola will check with the Mayor's office to see if the volunteers at the Nature Center have to follow the background check policy.

Ms. Lynch made a motion to accept Ms. Rublemann's report. Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor, so carried.

### **Reports: Jeff Coppola, Recreation Director**

Mr. Coppola gave everyone a copy of his report and the financial report. He went over the activities on his report.

Ms. Lynch asked if the Corporate Cup pays a fee to use the Armory.

Mr. Coppola stated no

Ms. Lynch asked if there are any outside organizations that Ansonia collects fees from for use of the Armory.

Mr. Coppola stated the Color Guard gives a donation when they use the Armory. They use the Armory on a yearly basis. He said the Recreation Commission doesn't set a fee to make money for use of the Armory. He said there are other groups that use the Armory for free for example, The Renaissance Fair, the Senior Health Fair, and the Birmingham Group.

Mr. Coppola said there will be a meeting tomorrow with the Mayor regarding the renovations to the fields. The Fishing clinic is scheduled at Colony Pond and the Summer Camp is scheduled. There will also be summer Sports Camps on the fields and in the gyms.

Ms. Lynch reminded Mr. Coppola that the flyers for the Summer Camp have to go out soon because school is out for the summer on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Devine asked about taking the baseball field.

Mr. Coppola said baseball can use the main field at Nolan.

Mr. Velardi said that soccer needs a field also.

Mr. Coppola said they will work out a schedule for Little League and soccer at the Ansonia Middle School and Emmett O'Brien field.

Mr. Sobolewski made a motion to accept Mr. Coppola's report. Mr. Velardi seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Coppola said he has submitted his first financial report to the Commission for their review.

### **Director's Reports**

Mr. Velardi said that during Executive Session there was discussion as to whether or not the Recreation Commission should approve the candidates for the Recreation programs. That is still a question. He said the Commissioners have to decide whether the Recreation Commission will approve or disapprove and establish a set of criteria for approval. In the absence of these two things, it is fair to say the Commission should approve or disapprove on an Interim basis the Boards until it is resolved.

Ms. Lynch said it says in the By-laws of the football and cheer we have to approve them. We do not know what the Little League or Soccer By-laws state regarding their Executive Boards. We will form a sub-committee and come up with a criteria and list our policy what we will be looking at, what we will approve or disapprove. We have to have rules and regulations that we will be following as a Recreation Board. Until confirmed with Corporation Counsel, we are going to make a motion for each sport to approve their Interim Board going forward and next month we will have our regulations.

Chairman Smith reminded the Commissioners that these are all volunteers and he asked how they will be able to run these checks on all of these volunteers.

Ms. Lynch said the Commission has to do this.

### **Soccer**

Kevin O'Brien was present. He stated he was representing Chris Sheehy who could not make the meeting.

Mr. O'Brien reviewed the soccer report with the Commission members. He said the grass on the field at the Nature Center was cut too short per Steve Kish. The spring 2016 season is going smoothly with no issues. The list of Board of Directors is as follows:

Kevin O'Brien – President  
Saleh Hanaif – Vice-President  
Paul Velardi – Travel Div. Director  
Stephen Kish – Rec. Div. Director  
Christopher Sheehy – Registrar  
Melissa Rottek – Secretary  
Christopher Sheehy – Treasurer

Mr. O'Brien stated the term of office is effective June 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

They have open registration where you can pay on-line or in person. The registration fees were increased as follows: the fee is for two sessions (Spring & Fall)

Recreation soccer: \$65 to \$75  
Travel soccer: \$85 to \$100

The soccer e-mail address is the first name and ansoniasoccer.org.

Mr. Devine asked if the soccer background checks have been done.

Mr. O'Brien said they are all done. They were done last year and they are good for two years.

Mr. Coppola said the CJSA runs the background checks but the City of Ansonia will have to run their own checks also. He said the CJSA is stricter than the City of Ansonia.

Ms. Lynch said Little League has done their background checks.

There was discussion on soccer doing the background checks this year.

Mr. Devine said we have to have consistent policy for all Officials regarding background checks.

Ms. Colleen Rondon stated Little League requires anyone on the field to have a background check.

Mr. Sobolewski said football has a league of referees. He said they may have background checks to be in the league.

Mr. Devine said this is something for the sub-committee to investigate.

Mr. Velardi discussed the increase in the fees with Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien said he is assuming Mr. Sheehy put a lot of thought into the fees and that he finds the increase to be adequate to cover the expenses.

Mr. Velardi said he feels Recreation should hold off on approval until a documented increase in the fees is provided to make sure it is needed as soccer is a family sport.

There was discussion on the increase in the soccer fees and that the registration notices are going out for June Registration.

Mr. Devine made a motion to accept the Soccer report with the notation that the registration fees be no more and possibly less pending discussion with Mr. Coppola and Mr. Velardi. Ms. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Ms. Lynch made a motion to approve the Interim Soccer Board as listed in the report as follows:

Kevin O'Brien – President  
Saleh Hanaif – Vice-President  
Paul Velardi – Travel Div. Director  
Stephen Kish – Rec. Div. Director  
Christopher Sheehy – Registrar  
Melissa Rottek – Secretary  
Christopher Sheehy – Treasurer

Mr. Cratty seconded. All in favor with one (1) abstention (P.Velardi abstained because he is a member of the Soccer Board)

## **Baseball & Softball**

Colleen Rondon was present.

Ms. Rondon explained the Little League/Softball Financial Report to the Commission. She said one check was sent for a baseball registration and a softball registration. This is shown on the report.

Ms. Rondon said Nolan Field is working out well. They are using the field for games only.

Ms. Rondon said the Hit-A-Thon fundraiser has begun. It will be the same day as Derby's fundraiser. Ansonia little League has raised \$5000 since Thursday. The kids gets hits and the date is May 15<sup>th</sup>. The site is 99pledges.com.

Ms. Rondon said the team pictures were rescheduled to May 21<sup>st</sup>. The All Stars will play in June and July and the fundraising is to keep the summer costs down. There is a Future Stars team ages 6 and 7 and a Rising Star team ages 8 and 9 playing this summer at no cost.

Ms. Rondon discussed the background check policy. She asked if a volunteer for the Little League is checked by Little League and by the City of Ansonia is that background check good for them if they volunteer for soccer.

Mr. O'Reilly said the background check should be good for one calendar year.

Mr. Sobolewski said they do not require it twice. The background checks go to the Mayor's office and there should be a master list of everyone who has been checked.

Mr. Coppola said it should be put in the Policy and we should have a master list in the Mayor's office.

Chairman Smith agreed that one background check for a volunteer should cover all of the programs.

Mr. O'Reilly said the Commission will clarify this in the policy.

Ms. Rondon said that the Little League Executive Board was approved by the Recreation Commission in the November 2015 minutes.

Ms. Lynch said she read the November 2015 minutes and she didn't see where it was voted on.

Mr. Velardi made a motion to accept the Baseball and Softball report including the Board of Directors on an interim basis unless it has been demonstrated the Executive Board has already been approved by the Recreation Commission. Mr. Sobolewski seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Little League/Softball Executive Board:

Colleen Rondon – President  
Henry Rondon – Vice-President  
Melissa Haas – Secretary  
Joe Pinto – Treasurer  
Christopher Ahearn – Softball Player Agent  
Marc Cornish – Equipment Officer  
Kurt Haas – Director Majors  
Baron Jones – Director Majors  
Chris Saddler – Player Agent Baseball  
Brad Zealor – Director Softball  
Chris Sherman  
Charlie Revere  
Keith Maynard  
Steven Tamburrino  
Joe Czajkowski

**Basketball (Boys & Girls)**

Mr. Jeff Coppola was present.

Mr. Coppola said that the Basketball season has ended. Everything went well.

**Football**

Mr. Keith Maynard was present. He said registrations are going slow. There is a Pop Warner meeting tomorrow evening. He should receive a lot more information at the meeting. He said the 8U will not do kick off for that age group. He said Mr. Piccirillo will contact Coach Brockett with regard to using the field so that there

are no conflicts with the High School games. He said he will submit more game dates next month.

Mr. Maynard said he is asking the Recreation Commission for approval to play a night game at the field. They would like to play one Saturday night game and three Sunday games at 10 a.m., 12 noon and 2 p.m. There are eight games scheduled by Pop Warner.

Mr. Maynard is also asking Recreation Commission if Ansonia Pop Warner can host the Division III Playoff games. He would like to submit our name to host the playoff games at Jarvis Field. The High School games will take preference.

Mr. Maynard stated he submitted a copy of the Pop Warner By-laws for Recreation Commission approval. He said the only change is the reference to Ansonia Coppers as a name change.

Mr. Sobolewski questioned section 4.8 re: 25 years of age.

Mr. Maynard said they feel 25 years is a fair age to be a leader.

Chairman Smith asked that the Commission take this up at our next meeting because there is a lot to go over in the By-laws.

Mr. Maynard stated that he has to present their By-laws to the Pop Warner board tomorrow night at their meeting.

Mr. Sobolewski asked if the Pop Warner Board is in place for accepting or disqualifying applicants.

Mr. Maynard said he doesn't have that information at this time.

Mr. Sobolewski said it should be in place, the criteria for who gets what.

Mr. Maynard said seniority.

There was discussion on the number of coaches in the program. Mr. Sobolewski said Recreation Commission can accept the By-laws pending the criteria for coaches.

Mr. O'Reilly said the Commission is still discussing whether they have the right to approve the By-laws.

A discussion followed between the commissioners regarding the Ansonia Coppers By-laws. Mr. O'Reilly said section 4.7 of the By-laws should read as follows: "Any party involved in or with the AC shall acknowledge the following hierarchy of authority: The Board of Recreation, the Recreation Director, the Board of Recreation liaison and then the Executive Board."

Mr. Cratty made a motion to accept the Ansonia Coppers By-Laws with the corrections for one month. Mr. O'Reilly seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Maynard discussed Section 7.9 stating Pop Warner is offering a Cheer non-compete (ages 5,6,7) program. Pop Warner requires a Cheer Coordinator.

Mr. Piccirillo stated the league meetings for So. CT Pop Warner in their By-laws that the Board of Directors which consists of a Cheer and Football Coordinator are required to attend one meeting.

There was discussion on the non-profit status of Pop Warner and that their meetings are not open to the public.

Mr. O'Reilly made a motion to accept the Football Report as presented. Ms. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Sobolewski made a motion to accept the Interim Football Board of Director members individually on an interim basis. Mr. Velardi seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Interim Board of Directors:

Mr. Velardi moved to approve Keith Maynard, President on an interim basis. Ms. Lynch seconded. Roll Call vote:

A. Lynch:	Yes
J. Devine:	Yes
P. Velardi:	Yes
T. O'Reilly:	Yes
A. Smith:	Yes

M. Cratty: No  
S. Sobolewski: No

The Motion carried: 5 yes and 2 no votes.

Mr. Velardi moved to approve Brian Piccirillo, Vice- President on an interim basis.  
Mr. Sobolewski seconded. Roll Call vote:

A. Lynch: Yes  
J. Devine: Yes  
P. Velardi: Yes  
T. O'Reilly: Yes  
A. Smith: Yes  
M. Cratty: Yes  
S. Sobolewski: Yes

The Motion carried: 7 yes and 0 no votes.

Mr. Velardi moved to approve Sakini DePina, Secretary on an interim basis. Mr.  
Sobolewski seconded. Roll Call vote:

A. Lynch: Yes  
J. Devine: Yes  
P. Velardi: Yes  
T. O'Reilly: Yes  
A. Smith: Yes  
M. Cratty: Yes  
S. Sobolewski: Yes

The Motion carried: 7 yes and 0 no votes.

Ms. Lynch moved to approve Jenny Romanowski, Treasurer on an interim basis.  
Mr. Sobolewski seconded. Roll Call vote:

A. Lynch: Yes  
J. Devine: Yes  
P. Velardi: Yes

T. O'Reilly: Yes  
A. Smith: Yes  
M. Cratty: Yes  
S. Sobolewski: Yes

The Motion carried: 7 yes and 0 no votes.

### **Cheer**

Mr. Brad Zealor and Ms. Colleen Kiley were present.

Ms. Kiley stated that they officially closed the old bank account. She stated she gave a check to Jeff Coppola and that \$150 is owed to Football with a few minor adjustments for fee charges.

Ms. Kiley said 50 children signed up for Cheer. The clinics will be held on Tuesday and Thursday. The Cheer group volunteered on Saturday at the ANC to help plant the tree.

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

### **Approval of Bills**

Mr. Coppola presented the following bills:

1. Ansonia Board of Ed:	\$1424
2. City Stitchers – Shirts:	\$ 160
3. Blanchettes for equipment for Little League:	\$ 684
4. Blanchettes for equipment for Little League:	\$1037
5. CJSA – Soccer	\$ 754
6. Blanchettes for equipment for Softball:	\$ 114
7. Blanchettes for equipment for softball:	\$ 991
8. EverReady Press for fishing flyers;	\$ 140

Mr. Velardi made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Mr. O'Reilly seconded. All in favor, so carried.

## **Correspondence**

None

## **New Business**

### **Background Check Information:**

Mr. O'Reilly researched companies for background checks for the Commission's information. He presented the information to the members. A copy of the three company's presentations is on file. He gave a brief overview of each one.

Mr. Sobolewski left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Coppola stated he will give the information that Mr. O'Reilly has regarding background checks to the Mayor's office.

Mr. Velardi thanked Mr. O'Reilly for all of the work he did in getting this information for the Commission.

### **Little League Board of Directors**

Ms. Lynch stated that the 2015-2016 Little League Board of Directors was approved by the Recreation Commission in the November 2015 minutes on page 8. (copy of November 2015, page 8 is attached)

### **Policies & Procedures Committee**

Mr. Velardi made a motion to form a sub-committee to prepare operating policies for the Ansonia Recreation Commission programs and to prepare a set of criteria on how Executive Board members will be approved or disapproved. Ms. Lynch seconded. All in favor, so carried.

The committee will consist of P. Velardi, A. Lynch, A. Smith and T. O'Reilly.

**Old Business**

None

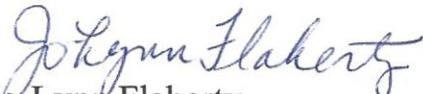
**Any other business to come before the Commission**

None

**Adjourn**

Ms. Lynch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Mr. O'Reilly seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jo-Lynn Flaherty  
Secretary