

## Recreation Advisory Committee

**LOCATION OF MEETING: Sharon Community Center**

**DATE & TIME: May 14, 2015**

Recreation Advisory Committee

May 14, 2015

Attendees: Gary Bluestein- Chairman, Mitch Blaustein, Cheryl Whiting, Steve Lesco, Margaret Marder, Steven Ferrara, Mike Goldstein, Amanda Levasseur - Recreation Director, Christine Kasparian - Assist. Recreation Director

Meeting called to order 7:10 p.m.

Motion made and passed to accept the minutes from the April 23, 2015.

Motion: Steve L.

Second: Mitch B.

Unanimous Vote

Presentation by Sharon Soccer Association - Kerry Soby, President & Paul Driscoll, Treasurer:

SSA just started due to snow. They had a two-week delayed start date. Programs are running just fine. The Rec program is the largest it's ever been with 361 children. SSA has done a fantastic job promoting and getting the word out there. SSA has kept the cost low to promote participation by fundraising and sponsorships. In the past, banners were not allowed to be hung at Gavin's. SSA has approximately five inquiries regarding banners. Gary suggests that SSA proposes an agreement with the Board of Selectmen to allow banners to be hung near the snack shack for future sponsorships.

Coaches, who are all volunteers, come 30 minutes early with Challenger Coaches prior to the start of each session. SSA also provides concussion training and defibrillator training for their coaches, parents, and board members, as well.

SSA would like to see more volunteers on the Rec side of their organization. A lot of 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders have volunteered to referee, run the snack shack, and coach while they are not playing. However, SSA could use a lot more help from parents in the Rec program. Travel side of the organization is handled by

most of the board members. SSA is up about 40 children total this season. Youngest age groups are the largest numbers the SSA is carrying right now.

SSA uses Gavin's and East as facilities in the Spring and Gavin's and Ames. The facilities are very small for the large size of the program. Additionally, the fields themselves are extremely overused. If there were more fields to allow the current ones to rest, this wouldn't be as big of a concern.

The goals will need to be replaced very soon, as they are now about ten years old and have a lot of wear and tear. Net costs range from \$3,600-\$11,000.

#### Recreation Update:

The Summer Brochure has been printed, and they will be in mailboxes this week. After a difficult winter, the plumbing at MPB is being repaired. Summer Hiring is finished and orientations start next week. Spring programs underway and we have been in contact with all instructors. Trophies for the STARS program have been purchased. The Rec Department has been working with SYBSA on insurance, permits, and tournament scheduling. Also, the Recreation Department has been working with the Sharon Health Department to coordinate dumpster pick - up. There have been multiple building & bandstand rental inquiries. Concession stand modifications in the agreement. The RAC needs to start thinking about Citizen of the Year.

#### Rules for Town Beaches:

Since beach hours have changed, the rules should reflect that change.

Rule #3 will now read: "The official beach season for both Memorial Park Beach and Community Center Beach shall be determined by the Recreation Department and publically advertised each year.

Rule #15 will now read: "Fishing on Town beaches or on beach docks is prohibited during operating hours."

Motion to recommend changes to the Board of Selectmen: Steve L.

Second: Mike G.

Unanimous vote

#### Community Outreach - Community Liasons:

Sharon Recreation is seeking representatives from the Rec Advisory Committee to participate in both the Sharon Pluralism Network and the Sharon Drug Coalition.

Mike Goldstein said he does not want to participate in anything he doesn't know anything about. Additionally, he wants to know what is in it for the Recreation Advisory Committee. Gary cannot volunteer, as he is already on the, Lake Review Committee and Field Committee. The committee suggested Cheryl, but she is currently as a liaison to the EcoTourism Network. Steve Lesco is not able to volunteer until the 250<sup>th</sup> is over.

Pickleball:

The Recreation Department has received a request to convert one of the Tennis Courts into a Pickleball court. The game of Tennis can ALSO be played on a Pickleball-converted court.

Motion to support the recommendation to convert one Tennis Court into a Pickleball court (pending financial obligations): Mitch  
Second: Steve L.

Unanimous

Old Business:

Amanda gave a Town Meeting report. Both Recreation capital projects were approved: Tennis Courts at Deborah Sampson and Bathrooms/Snack Shack at Ames Street.

Other Business that was not known 48 hours in advance: Steve reminds us that the Anniversary Ball is coming up on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Tickets can be purchased at the Sharon Community Center. Amanda reminds us that the Bob-O-Thon celebration is happening this upcoming weekend on May 16, 2015.

Next Meeting: TBD.

Motion to adjourn: Margaret

Second: Mike

Unanimous vote

Meeting adjourned at 8:33PM

Respectfully Submitted

Christine Kasparian, Assistant Recreation Director