Park and Recreation Commission

Andrew Cota, Chairman

Beverly Moran
James Benanto
Ronald Sill
James Butler Sr.
Bruce Sill
John Bittmann

Minutes

(meeting recorded)

Monthly meeting: Monday May 13, 2019 in City Hall.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

By roll call, members present: Andrew Cota, Beverly Moran, Ronald Sill, James Butler Sr., Bruce Sill and John Bittmann. James Benanto was excused.

Parks and Recreation Director Dennis O'Connell was present. Athletic Director Matthew Bradshaw was excused.

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ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:
No changes were presented.

MOTION made by Ronald Sill and second by Bruce Sill. Move to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
MOTION made by Bruce Sill and second by James Butler Sr. Move to accept the meeting minutes of April 8, 2019, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PORTION:
Tom Lionetti of 79 Sunset Drive, Derby asked for an update on the installation of the new turf. Mr. O'Connell indicated that weather has caused some delays and the contractor is awaiting delivery of the materials.

Joe from Pop Warner questioned the availability of the fields and space in the new field house for the Pop Warner fall program. Mr. O'Connell noted that there is no designated space in the Payden Field House for the Pop Warner program at this time. Parks and Recreation has office space and there may be some space available there. As far as the fields, the cheerleaders have historically practiced on the softball field in August and then moved up to the High School in September. At this time, the field schedules are up in the air but consideration will be given to this customary use.

Mr. Cota and Mr. O'Connell indicated that with the new fields there will be increased interest to utilize the fields by both existing programs and possibly outside venues. Scheduling will be accomplished through the AD Director Bradshaw and Parks and Recreation Director O'Connell as it has been done in the past.

CORRESPONDENCES:
Mr. Cota noted that the insurance certificate has been received from the Boys of Summer program.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:
Parks & Recreation Director's Report: Mr. O'Connell reported that the City has obtained an energy saving grant and work is progressing at the Derby Veteran's Community Center to wrap piping going to the boiler and pump rooms.

High School Athletic Director's Report: Mr. Bradshaw was excused

NEW or OTHER BUSINESS:

Update on the Football/Baseball/Field house Committees

As mentioned earlier, the fields are progressing well. The Maintenance Sub-Committee has reviewed many policies that have been forwarded to the Board of Alderman Operations and Policy Sub-Committee for their consideration. Their next meeting is May 23rd. Also at that meeting they will be discussing staffing and salaries in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Cota was told that the phone and internet services to the new field house are being finalized.

The two committees have been discussing the relocation of the press box. Estimates were received that were quite high and the committees have suggested seeking alternatives to bring the project to a more reasonable cost. Ms. Payden has indicated that she would include the press box into her projections as the relocation became necessary as the football field was shifted on the lot to accommodate the design of the field house.

Members discussed the proposed policies that have been drafted. In particular, the stipulation that two adults shall be present when minors are in the building. It was questioned if the minor is female; will that require that at least one of the adults will be female? Members wondered how the rules would apply to the Athletic Department activities and if they had their own set of standards.

Mr. Bruce Sill commented on the staircase that extends from the field house to the school parking lot area. At this time the railings have not been installed but it was clarified that there will be railings on each side and also a center rail. He asked if there would be handicapped parking and accessibility from the Derby Neck Library parking area. Mr. O'Connell was unsure but would raise the question to the committee.

MOTION by Ronald Sill and second by James Butler Sr. Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully prepared,

Karen Kemmesies

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Karen Kemmesies, secretary

These minutes are subject to the Commission's approval at their next scheduled meeting.