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 March 11, 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 Benanto, James Butler Sr. and Bruce Sill. John Bittmann was excused.

Parks and Recreation Director Dennis O'Connell was present.

Athletic Director Matthew Bradshaw was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
MOTION made by James Butler Sr. and second by Bruce Sill. Move to accept the meeting minutes of February 11, 2019, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PORTION:
No one came forward.

CORRESPONDENCES:
Nothing was presented.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:
Parks & Recreation Director's Report: Mr. O'Connell reported that Little League is registering and will open soon.

Youth Soccer is registering. Work has begun on preparing the fields for the spring season.

Regarding the budget, Mr. O'Connell will be working with the Finance Director to prepare the budget for the new Payden Park and field house. Suggestions were made to have separate line items specific to the new expenditures. Equipment maintenance and field supplies line items will increase with the new fields. This past year the budget has been reduced because of the closure. Mr. O'Connell reviewed staffing that would be needed for the new facility. The hours and timing will be dependent on the season and the use of the fields. He projected that custodians would be needed for approximately 14 hours per week. A position will need to be created for an attendant to be in the building whenever the facility is being used. It was stressed that whenever there are youth in the building that there be at least two adults supervising the activity.

High School Athletic Director's Report: Mr. Bradshaw first reviewed noted athletic achievements.

1. Ja'Kwan Hale - class "S" champion 300m and high jump, state open runner-up 300m and high jump, Register All-Area Indoor Track
2. Cassidy Ngaopraseutsack - state open qualifier 3200m
3. Nate Bartone - third place at class "S" tournament in the 195 pound weight class
4. Jahwan Cody - All-NVL basketball team
5. Boys Basketball qualified for the state tournament

6. Cheerleading team placed second in class "S" tournament
7. Kim Voytek - All-NVL and All-State cheer teams
8. Boys' Indoor Track runners-up at NVL Championship
9. Cassidy Ngaopraseutsack won two silver medals at NVL Meet
10. Ja'Kwan Hale selected as outstanding senior and outstanding in field events at the NVL Championship
11. Zerion Montgomery was selected for the CHSCA All-State Team, Defensive Back
12. Ja'Kwan Hale set indoor track high jump record at 6"8"
13. Javan Guevara-Cragwell set the indoor track long jump record at 20'4"
14. Girls Basketball Tournament drew our largest crowd so far this year
15. Zerion Montgomery broke the single game rushing record with 354 yards against Kennedy HS
16. Zerion Montgomery and Alex Hickey earned All-NVL Football first team honors.
17. David Chevarella, Nate Bartone, and Julian Delarosa made the All-Copper Football Team.
18. Derby's Class Act Council received the Michael's Cup Award at the CIAC Sportsmanship Conference. We were one of four schools recognized for our outstanding work in sportsmanship and community. One of our students, Alyssa Meneo, presented highlights of our program to schools from all over Connecticut.

Mr. Bradshaw stated that with the baseball field still under construction, arrangements have been made for the spring season for baseball and softball. Boys baseball practice will utilize the Little League field and will play in Naugatuck. Girls softball will be at Bradley School.

As the football schedule is planned well in advance of the season, Mr. Bradshaw will start looking at the fall schedule taking into account the new facilities but also alternatives should construction be delayed.

Mr. O'Connell noted that the Bradley field lights are dimming with age. It does not seem to be affecting play at this time but their bulb replacement should be considered in the near future. Mr. Benanto noted that with the new fields lighting usage will likely increase at the greatly enhanced facility. The baseball field will be LED and the football field will have their existing lights. With increased use, consideration must be given to both the electricity use and to the fact that the fixtures will likely need more frequent replacement and that has to been incorporated into the budget preparations.

NEW or OTHER BUSINESS:

Update on the Football/Baseball/Field house Committees

On the football side, the project has been shut down for the winter. The sink hole is being studied and the contractors continue to explore engineering solutions.

The field house and baseball side of the project is moving forward. The sub-committee is drafting protocols for the use of the field house. Revenue may be generated if the building is rented and if so, the necessary staffing will be vital. The sub-committee will be bringing forward policies and procedures as well as the suggested budgetary demands for the new facility.

MOTION by Ronald Sill and second by James Butler Sr. Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully prepared,

Karen Kemmesies

Karen Kemmesies, secretary

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