

Recreation Committee Minutes
August 18, 2005

Members Present: Chairman Dennis Senibaldi called the meeting to order at 8:45 pm. Earl Bartlett, Ralph Valentine, Lynn Goldman, Barry Goldman were present. Cheryl Haas, Recreation Coordinator, and Roger Hohenberger, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, were present as well.

Members Excused:

Members Absent: Carol Dirksen, Kathy Narkewich.

Old Business:

Cheryl Haas updated the Committee on the Yoga Program. Patty Morin will be instructing Power Yoga on Monday evenings and Mimi Kolodziej will be teaching on Saturday mornings. Mimi will also be offering ballroom Dancing on Sunday evenings twice a month.

New Business:

Cheryl Haas informed the Committee of the following items. The Beach will be closing for the season on Sunday, August 21, 2005. Chairman Senibaldi told the Committee that the lifeguards were having a Beach Blast on Saturday, August 20, 2005.

The Fire Chief has an Eagle Scout who is interested in building a bridge from the soccer field to the Multi-use Building area. The Eagle Scout will be coming to the Committee once he has a plan in place.

Andy Paolino is conducting a Tennis Tournament on August 22 and 23, 2005 for the youth in the tennis lessons.

Boy Scout Troop 266 will be holding their annual kick-off meeting at Griffin Park on Thursday, September 8, 2005 from 6-9 pm, with a rain date of September 15, 2005.

The Skate Board Park is scheduled to be repaired on Saturday and Sunday, August 20-21, 2005. It will tentatively open on Monday, August 22, 2005. The Police will be locking the gate sometime between 7-8 pm at night. There is a joint meeting between the Board of Selectmen, Recreation Committee, Police Department, Recreation Department, and Maintenance Department that is going to be held in September to discuss some of the issues at Griffin Park.

Cheryl Haas met with the Baseball League at their August meeting.

The Recreation Committee needs two regular members and two alternates. The Recreation Coordinator will find out how to place an advertisement for these positions.

The tents that were used during the Town Day on July 2, 2005 seem to be missing right now. Mr. Valentine and Mr. Bartlett remember putting the tents back in the Multi-use Building. Mr. Valentine will contact the Library to try to locate these tents.

Ms. Haas mentioned that she was contacted about some trees at Rogers Field. Mr. Hohenberger said that legally we now have to have them looked at. He suggested that Selectman Crisler be contacted.

Mr. Valentine made a motion to use \$500 from the Recreation budget for the trees to be looked at; Ms. Goldman seconded, the vote carried 5-0.

Mr. Goldman updated the Committee on the Windham Tennis Open. He said it was hazy, hot, and very successful. There were a lot of donations (monetary and other). He thanked Mr. Bartlett and Chairman Senibaldi for rescuing them with tents and ice. Chairman Senibaldi will be bringing the names of the donors to a future Selectmen's meeting to thank them once again, as well has a public hearing needs to be scheduled for the acceptance of a donation (check.) Mr. Goldman mentioned he is interested in researching to have a backboard and locked bulletin board for the courts. Mr. Bartlett will proceed forward with the windscreens. The next tournament is going to be a wooden racket tournament open to Windham residents at no charge.

Ms. Haas updated the Committee that Vermont Tennis repaired the 'heaves' on the basketball courts and fixed the pole on Tennis Court #2. This particular pole was cut and needs to be put back in the same location every year. The heaves were repaired at no charge this time, but that won't be the case in the future. Ms. Haas will be in contact with Vermont Tennis to find out the cause of the heaves. Mr. Goldman mentioned the ripple on three of the tennis courts. Ms. Haas said that Vermont Tennis left before she could talk to them about it. Ms. Haas will contact them.

Mr. Valentine reminded the Committee that there are some meeting minutes that need to be approved – June 4, 2005, June 23, 2005, and July 1, 2005.

Mr. Bartlett is interested in coming forward with a proposal for 2 bocce courts at Griffin Park. The Committee was interested in the idea. Mr. Bartlett will proceed forward with plans.

Ms. Haas requested that she organize a mini-pumpkin festival this October for residents. She mentioned that she wants to begin to do some programming for the Town. Chairman Senibaldi made a motion for the Recreation Coordinator to organize the event with a budget of \$500, Ms. Goldman seconded; the vote carried 5-0.

Ms. Haas presented a draft memo to the Planning Board that was a result of a meeting that occurred at Tokanel Field with herself, Mr. Valentine, Ms. Becky Way, and Mr. Al Turner from the Planning Department. The purpose of the memo is for the Recreation Committee to be informed when there are opportunities in Windham for land that could be set aside for recreational purposes, such as fields. Chairman Senibaldi and Mr. Bartlett were concerned that with the number of fields there are now, the maintenance and parking are difficult. They do not want it to seem that Recreation is demanding land in every subdivision and they are concerned about having too many fields. Mr. Valentine said that this is just a baby step, it is important to look into the future, and this is just for informational purposes only. Mr. Valentine made a motion to go ahead with the memo, Mr. Goldman seconded; the vote passed 4-1 (Mr. Bartlett opposed.)

Ms. Haas has been working with John LaRochelle from the Windham Soccer Association. There was a question whether soccer would utilize Rogers Field or Tokanel Field. The Committee asked Ms. Haas to write a letter to Mr. LaRochelle requesting them to use Tokanel Field, and not use Rogers. If they have an emergency and need to use Rogers, then Recreation needs to be contacted. The holes at Tokanel and Nashua Rd. fields need to be repaired. Ms. Haas will contact Brandin Landscaping to have them repair the two fields. She will find out the cost for this and decide if we will have Delahunty deliver loom, or if Brandin will do all of it. Brandin will use the material currently at Tokanel Field as well as the delivered loom, and seed it. The Committee put a cap of \$500 for this.

Mr. Valentine discussed the information sheet on the swales at Tokanel Field and Nashua Rd. Field. This was a result of the previous mentioned meeting at Tokanel Field with the Planning Department. The swales and brooks at both fields need to be cleaned out and hopefully this will help with the fields being so wet. Ralph Valentine made a motion for the Recreation Coordinator to get a quote from three vendors, not to exceed \$3,000, for the work at these fields, as noted in the proposal, to be completed by September. Mr. Valentine will work with the Recreation Coordinator on this project, Mr. Bartlett seconded; the voted carried 5-0. The backstop at Tokanel field was also discussed. It is in dangerous condition and needs to be replaced.

The meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl S. Haas
Recreation Coordinator

