

Ashford Parks and Recreation

Special Meeting Minutes

1/15/18, 7:00 pm Recreation Office

Present: Sherry York, Dan Kehoe, Garth Bean, Neil Gordon, Leslie Bizilj, Marty Cantrell, Andrew Doering **Absent:** Sandi Moquin

Call to order: 7:15 p.m.

Public to be Heard: none

Meeting Guests: Leslie Bizilj, Marty Cantrell, Andrew Doering came as guests and to learn more about the Commission and our Budget.

Financial Report: 1/8/18

APRC	Budget	YTD Expenditures
Programs	31,000	17,009
Administration	51,170	22,781
Grounds	12,392	5,242
Total	126,563	60,921

Motion to accept the financial report made by Neil, seconded by Garth , all in favor.

Meeting Minutes: November meeting minutes were reviewed, Correction noted under basketball, 4th line should read Instructional is for Grades 1 and 2, League play is offer to 3rd and 4th, 5th and 6th and 7th and 8th Graders, and High School players.

Motion to accept the meeting minutes with correction made by Dan, and seconded by Neil, all in favor.

Chairpersons Report: None

OLD BUSINESS

Program Update : Program Data shared on **Carol Sing** positive evaluations, near capacity. Small turnout for **Christmas Crafts**, **Basketball** off and running, 7 teams in 2 leagues presently. Instructional Basketball small turnout 8 players. Adult Basketball attempting a comeback.

Ice skating in Bolton had 22 pp on 1/7/18, next date 1/27 at UConn 6:15 & 7:35. Decline in participation in Bus Trips was discussed, suggestion made for a trip to the Casino.

Upcoming Programs: Swim Lessons, Swim Club, Gymnastics and Tiny Tumblers is planned for Spring. We hope to have Caylin (Balogh)Fitzgerald back to instruct a few of those programs. Advertisement will go out in the Feb. Citizen and with flyers through the school.

NEW BUSINESS

Review Budget Submission for FY 18/19

Budget was read and reviewed line by line; questions addressed, explanations given. Discussion about why the Grounds Budget was over by so much last year. Playground mulch and fertilizer and reseeding happened in the same fiscal year. Usually spread out over 2 fiscal years.

Discussion about how to promote our Scholarship/Campership Fund so that we get more applicants. Suggestion made to post at the library. Need for another bill board or D.O.T. sign Near Dollar General or Town Hall or the corner of Rtes # 44 and # 89.

In reviewing the actual numbers for last year. Neil questioned the \$1000 budgeted line item for office telephone, actual was \$900 charged off to the Rec. Dept. for the year. Two members felt this was high and thought the town should be able to get a better deal, with internet included.

In reviewing the Parks Maintenance Budget. Discussion ensued about what the Public Works Dept. does and why all Maintenance isn't over seen by them. They help a lot, when available but must prioritize roads over park projects. We, APRC are the best advocates for the parks!

We discussed our free offerings, and how important they are to the community, Summer Concerts, Family Day our Halloween Party, Carol Sing and Ice Skating represent the best traditions of Ashford Parks and Recreation. We are advertising for an International Folk Dancing Group led by Veronica Craig. A new monthly venture for musicians, called a "Pickin Party," will be starting in February so that people can share music, and practice together with Susan Way.

Motion to approve the 2018/2019 Budget Submission made by Dan, seconded by Neil, all in favor.

Motion to adjourn made by Neil at 9:40 p.m., seconded by Garth, all in favor.

These minutes are being submitted by Sherry York in Sandra Moquin's absence from the meeting.