

# Ludlow Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

## September 8, 2011

Present: Howard Paul, Joe Gurdak, Sue Pollender, Patty Rumrill, and Pam O'Neil.

Meeting called to order at 5:02 pm

Approval of June Minutes delayed due to flood.

### **Comments from Citizen's**

Before flood, many concerns about skate park. Concerned about distribution of drugs. Bathroom smelt of Marijuana, police come marijuana was not smoked but instead of broken down for distribution. Police have been involved and made some arrests.

After flood, things seem to have calmed down. However, there is a lot of talk around about close existing park, moving the park, into the tennis court area which would add more lights, more people, be better supervised. The old park could then become parking.

It has been suggested that the tennis court be moved to West Hill. It is most kids who use the skateboard park. Potentially \$15000 to move Tennis to west hill. It will be placed on the agenda for further discussion to October's meeting.

There were people who were upset that the Community Center building was not being used as a shelter during the flood. People showed up and then found out it wasn't and then were stuck there. The building was not considered as a shelter because it was in a flood plain. Ludlow Town Hall, Okemo's Sugarhouse, Ludlow Elementary School and the Catholic Church were designated as emergency shelters. Hurricane Irene was definitely a learning experience. The Community Center was open after the flood for people to shower the Monday after the storm. There was a complaint about hours of operation.

People do not seem to be upset about National Guard staying here even with programs having to be moved or changed because of space.

### **Director's Report:**

All programs through August ran well. No major issues. Summer Camp went well and Howie will assess staffing pattern for next year. Seventy kids went to Six Flags... with an average daily attendance of forty-five kids.

We need to look at the relationship with the After School Program in depth. Our Summer Camp showed a major attendance drop with certain programs. Friday programming was highly popular. We would like to invite Karen Trimble, PJ Pollard, Craig Hutt Voter and staff members to talk about separating two programs. Patty questioned about liability during these activities and about conflicts between policies of each organization that should be addressed. We will invite 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant Board to our November meeting to talk about the summer relationship.

### **Old Business:**

Dog Park is still in the process. Sue, Fern, and Howie drafted a letter to go to select board asking for their support so that park could be covered under town insurance.

Dorsey resodded for soccer. Held up well during storm. Monday went to Dorsey only damage was in skateboarding park a few trees and mud. Soccer team cleaned up Skate Park. Skate Park was first facility opened.

### **New Business:**

Fletcher Fields out of commission. Still has water but have no equipment or resources to fix it until roads are all set. . Goals were swept away. Three have been found but are not usable. No infield material left on softball fields. Can't go on field until soil has been tested. Little League fields are destroyed, backstops may be salvaged. Concession stand contents are ruined. however, there does not seem to be any structural damage to concession stand. Wooden areas seem to be okay, but concession stand lifted off its foundation and landed on lights. Anything that could float floated away. All little league equipment has been lost. Howie is working with Carl Pavano, a professional baseball player who lives in the area, because there are grant opportunities through Major League Baseball and the players association. One example is that if a player makes a personal donation, MLB has a grant program that would match it for three consecutive years. Howie is gathering information on other grants, such as Baseball for Tomorrow, a program that recycles equipment. other may be available to rebuild fields. A concern was raised about whether or not the Little League fields could be ready for the spring. If Little League fields cannot be used, Dorsey Park could be used for Little League games and practice.

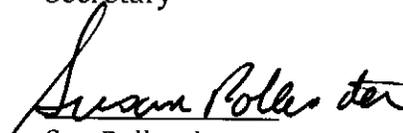
Fall Soccer Program: Sign up is tonight. Mount Holly, Ludlow, and Cavendish are combining efforts for 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> Soccer program.

Next Meeting: October 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. Community Center

Motion to adjourn by Patty and seconded by Joe. Meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm

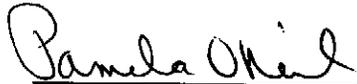
Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela O'Neil  
Secretary

  
Sue Pollender

  
Joe Gurdak

  
Patty Rumrill

  
Pamela O'Neil

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Ficken