

Ludlow Recreation Committee
Minutes of
September 10, 2009

Present: Howard Paul, Susan Pollender, Marcia Dockum, Pat Rumrill
Guest: Pamela O'Neil
Call to order: 5:05p.m.

Comments from Citizens:

- Public concerns regarding money to put in the security system but the lights for the skatepark can not be turned on. This was taken care of as the wires were tripped when the cameras were put in.
- Complaints regarding the No Dog signs at Dorsey Park. It was felt that there were too many signs and it looked tacky. Four signs were posted and dogs are still at Dorsey with the owners not picking up after them. A citation can be issued with a \$100 fine.
- Security cameras have been noticed and people are feeling better about allowing younger kids to go back to Dorsey. The cameras did catch a young man filling the girls bathroom with rocks.
- David from Mt Holly complained to July Pullinen regarding the elementary age soccer program which consists of Ludlow and Mt Holly residents. They had asked for some soccer games to be played Mt Holly. A discussion in June felt that it was a good idea, but in July Mt Holly put in a basketball court on the soccer field. The soccer field went from 100 yards to 67 yards in length which is too small to play 5/6th grade soccer. Howie looked at turning the field a different direction, but it did not work. David feels we are not including the Mt Holly kids. The field is just not big enough to play on.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion by Marcia was made to approve the July 2009 minutes. With a second from Pat, the minutes were approved.
- A motion from Pat was made to approve the August 2009 minutes. With a second from Sue, the minutes were approved.

Director's Report:

- Ballroom dancing is going well. Having a dance in the town hall is hard as the seating has to come down the put right back up again for meeting. This is very time consuming. It takes two people to take the staging apart. There are 14-30 people who come to the dances. Clean up is difficult as they spread white powder on the floor which needs to be cleaned up. Howie talked to Frank and it's possible that the dances will continue at the Armory when the town takes it over.
- Co-ed softball had many rainouts and a beaver issue causing the stream to overflow. Three beavers were removed. The season finally finished on 8/24, this was 3 weeks behind schedule. The Potbelly Old Timers won the league and the tournament.
- Youth summer camp had the best summer with 75 registered campers. Average of 60 campers per day. The last two weeks the numbers went down. This camp was run with the assistance of Okemo Community Grant. 9-11:30 each day was focused on educational or community serviced based activities. This ran well except in Mt Holly. The school was torn apart and the playground was under renovation. Next year we would like to base this in Ludlow. Some staff members Howie will not ask to return next year due to some issues.

- Skate park had new ramps added and resurfaced. Summer use was down due to the weather. Right now all is going well and lights are on at nighttime.
- Challenge sports soccer camp had 40 kids enrolled. Howie hosted the coach this year with a great experience. Howie signed a three year contract to stay with them.
- Dorsey Park – on 8/21 we had heavy rains with over 4” in 45 minutes which caused an overflow ditch to overflow. This plugged the culver at the end of the field. Water and silt ran across the field with 18” of mud in the penalty box to the bench area and all the way to the parking lot. Okemo/Tucker/Sanderson/BRHS soccer teams and summer staff spent one week removing the silt to get it playable again. Next spring we will dig up the section and resod. \$6,000 in clean up fees. The highway crew worked on the back up on West Hill, a large log and rock jammed which caused everything to go over the top.

Old Business:

- The Recreation Department will be taking over Little League for next year. We are requesting a meeting with the officers of Little league before the transfer of this program takes place. Some changes will need to be made and Little league should make them before the Recreation Department takes over. The November meeting will be devoted to Little League. Any concerns about Little League should be brought to the next meeting.
- The Armory purchase is going forward. It will mainly be used for educational and recreational purposes. The Tank barn will be housed by LPCTV and Black River Good Neighbors.
- The dog park is progressing nicely. The committee is looking at three possible sites: West Hill, Fletcher Fields and the Little League fields. The committee did speak with Sharon Bixby regarding the Fletcher Fields. They will be asking for monetary help from the enterprise fund and grants. Obedience training will be brought to town after the park is up and running.

New Business:

- Youth soccer started this week. 5/6 grade boys is coached by Doug Ficken with 16 boys signed up. 5/6 grade girls coached by Peter Collins has 13 participants. Howie is running the K-4 program.

Meeting Adjourned:

- Pat made a motion to adjourn the meeting and with a second from Marcia the meeting adjourned at 5:45p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 5:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Rumrill
Secretary

Susan Pollender

Marcia Dockum

Tim Lee