

Approved 11/8/05
HAMPDEN PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Meeting minutes October 25, 2005

Meeting called to order 7:08 pm.

Attendance: Chris McDonald, Huck House, Larry Forrest and Mike D'Agostino. Tina Albano was meeting with Tracy and joined the board later.

Also present were: John Flynn, Bob White, Paul Ostrikis, Glenn Walulak, Scott Coopee, Steve Sugermeier, Norm Bandoski and Rick Kapinos.

Bills: Reviewed and paid.

Minutes: Minutes from October 11, 2005 were read. Larry made a motion to accept the minutes with changes. Huck seconded. All in favor 4-0.

The minutes from October 18, 2005 were read. Larry made a motion to accept the minutes. Mike seconded. All in favor 4-0.

The minutes from October 22, 2005 were read. Mike made a motion to accept the minutes. Huck seconded. All in favor 4-0.

Baseball Evaluations: John said there was good attendance for the evaluations of the 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th graders. The 5th & 6th group currently has 31 players which would make up two teams. The 3rd & 4th group currently has 37 players. John suggested that a "letter of player's status" be sent out from Parks & Rec to let them know what is involved in being on a travel team. Bob White has worked on the 5th & 6th eval numbers. John suggested that CW Zimmer work the numbers for the 3rd & 4th. John says that CW knows what he is doing and should do the initial numbers. The 7th & 8th graders currently have 12 players. One more is needed for the league minimum. John felt that the evals went smoothly even with the date changes and the weather. Tina asked about the marks a player would get if they only attended one eval. If both evals were attended, the marks would be averaged over the two days. If only one eval was attended, those are the marks that are taken. Mike brought up the point that the evaluators were scoring on a 1-3 basis one day, and a 1-5 basis the next. John said that he asked the evaluators to do it that way. Tina questioned as to whether everyone should be graded on pitching. This could bring down a player's average if he is not a pitcher. John said he looks at the pitching mark separately because he needs to know where the pitchers are for the travel teams. Pitching will be backed out of the average scores. Bob commented that the 5th & 6th were not evaluated on catching and fielding. Larry asked about the batting and pitching. When pitching from the mound the evaluators are looking for mechanics and throws to first.

An inventory of the baseball equipment will be done at John's house on October 29th at 1:00. Safety helmets with face guards will be needed for the 3rd & 4th graders. John is still looking for uniforms.

Softball: Larry feels there is a numbers problem. Currently there are 7 for 3rd & 4th, 13 for 5th & 6th and 9 for 7th & 8th. John will forward last year's rosters to Deb. Larry and Tina will make calls to those who have not signed up but played last year to see if they are interested in playing this year.

Norm Bandoski's U14 WSC team: Norm turned in eight of his fifteen liability waivers from his players. Norm felt that the field rental fee of \$15/session was high. He would like to pay a flat fee for the season. He cannot recall exactly how many practices he has had. Larry stated that we already have a policy in place and we need to follow the established policy. Chris said that the policy also states that prior to field use, the board needs to have liability waivers signed and the fee paid. Deb emailed Norm on 10/11/05 that the waivers and a \$15/practice fee was due immediately. Norm was given some leeway. Norm said the fee was not discussed with him. Norm would like to pay a flat \$150 for field use for the season. Glenn felt that a set fee would be

better for a field use charge. He thinks Wilbraham will be looking to use our fields in the future. He feels more Hampden kids will be signing up with the Wilbraham Soccer Club. Due to the budget situation of 2005, many families did not know where Hampden sports stood. Chris agreed that nobody knew what was going to happen with the town vote. Glenn thinks better communication is needed. Larry said that a field rental fee is needed for out of town teams to pay for the field paint, maintenance and upkeep of the fields. The Hampden kids pay for this when they sign up for soccer.

Huck made a motion to accept Norm's \$150 field use check with the understanding that Norm needs to deliver the rest of the waivers by tomorrow morning. Tina seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Soccer U13 situation: There were two written complaints received about inappropriate behavior regarding a boy on Steve Sugermeyers team. Chris called the parents of the boy in question. Chris wanted to go into an executive council with this situation. The board does not want to make this a public issue.

The board entered into an executive council at 8:28pm.

The board came back to the regular board meeting at 8:42pm.

The two coaches, Steve Sugermeyer and Scott Coopee have not noticed anything inappropriate. The coaches said that they did not hear of this situation earlier or they would have dealt with it. The coaches feel that the other kids on the team would not have a problem with the boy in question if he stays on the team. They could not say how the two victims would feel.

Huck made a motion to go back into executive session at 9:06pm. Larry seconded. All in favor 5-0.

The board came back to the regular board meeting at 10:05pm. The board has voted 2-1, Huck opposed, Chris and Larry abstained, to suspend the boy in question for one week from 10/26/05-11/02/05. The board will make the call to the parents.

Basketball: We will have to wait and see how the teams play out before the process of coach selection is started. Travel team tryouts will be November 3, 2005-November 5, 2005. The boys will be switched to November 3rd and the girls will go to November 4th. Rick, Tina and Deb will phone the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th boys and girls about the eval date change. A notice will also go home from the schools. Larry said there will be five evaluators at each session. They will do nothing but evaluate. Facilitators will organize and work with the kids. Larry will run the boys and Mike will run the girls. The kids will scrimmage the last hour or so while the evaluators observe.

Rick asked for compensation in the form of restaurant gift certificates for the evaluators. RAH will fund this. Rick attended the Suburban meeting. The fee for the Suburban girls will be \$975 which includes all ref fees and is due in December. Mouth guards are optional for the girls, but mandatory for the boys. The fee for the Suburban boys will be \$290 which does not include ref fees and is due by November 9. Rosters need to be in November 26th for the girls and December 1 for the boys. We do not know the CYO fees yet. The Suburban and CYO leagues both start December 4. Rick mentioned that all of the leagues have mentioned a problem with behavior from the coaches and the parents. A special meeting will be held on November 6 for team and coach selection. Mike mentioned again that his opinion is that the coaches should have input in the team selection. Rick will look into the pay scale for the scorekeepers, referees and a teen to monitor the gym.

Uniform deposit checks: The baseball/softball uniform deposit checks that have been received will be mailed back with a note saying that we will collect the deposit at the time the uniform is issued.

Financial assistance: Two families have asked for financial assistance with the basketball registration fee. Bob White will bring this to the RAH board.

Dumpster: We had the option of leaving the dumpster free of charge at the park for the winter. The board decided to have it removed.

Park repairs: Huck will get a price on repairing the fence. Possible donations of time, equipment and supplies i.e. surge stone, gravel, loam. Bob White will make a "Park Closed" sign. Huck and Dana will winterize the bathrooms in the next week or so.

Huck motioned to adjourn at 11:18pm. Mike seconded. All in favor 4-0.

Next meeting: Special meeting November 6, 2005 at 7:00pm.
Regular meeting November 8, 2005 at 7:00pm.