

**TOWN OF BRATTLEBORO  
RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT  
BOARD MEETING  
April 11, 2016**

The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks Board met on Monday, April 11, 2016 at the Gibson Aiken Center in the Conference room.

**Attending Board Members:** Todd Fontaine, Sam Rowley, Jessica Gould, Ben Underhill, Ricky Davidson, Renee Woliver and Bill Willson.

**Attending Staff members:** Director, Carol Lolatte Assistant Director Jessy Cudworth and Administrative Assistant, Kim Isaacsen.

**Agenda Adjustment:** None

**Public Participation:** Ann Bolt, Pam Nickerson, Mary Burns and Dawn Chattin were present for the meeting. Dawn Chapman addressed the Board about changes that were made January 1, 2016 for Senior Center Programing. In January Carol Lolatte and Jessy Cudworth with the support of the Town Manager presented a letter to all of the senior program instructors and program participants letting them know that all programs would now have voluntary donation baskets available during programing. The Senior Center has always accepted donations and works keeps programs free or affordable when a fee needs to be charged. While the Senior Center is included with the Recreation and Parks budget not all costs for running programs are covered with in the town budget. Dawn has previously meet the Town Manager and the Finance Manager about the voluntary donation baskets, she was unaware of the detailed accounting of funds at the Recreation and Parks office. The voluntary donation that are being collected by the Senior Center are accounted for in the miscellaneous rentals account in the General Fund. Dawn did ask if the town is applying for grant through the Older Americans Act of 1965. Carol stated the town does apply for grants, but will follow up with the grants manager to determine if the town does apply for the Older American Act Grant.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the March 14, 2016 minutes with no changes was made by Sam Rowley and seconded by Bill Willson by a vote of 7-0 the March minutes were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**DOG PARK/SKATEPARK PROPOSAL UPDATE:** The Dog Park continues to work on fundraising. Members of BASIC are working with Marques & Morano on the final plans for the ACT250 permit amendment. After the ACT250 permit amendment is complete the BASIC committee will have a fundraising kick-off that will include a two minute video to be used in conjunction with a crowd funding campaign.

**WEST RIVER PARK UPDATE:** Final plan for the softball seating is complete, the project will go out to bid this spring with a project start date of late August after Softball. The playground will be installed in the next few weeks.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **PROGRAM REPORT:**

- We are currently looking for a youth softball coach.
- The Tee-ball coaches meeting is scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be five Small Fry teams this year.
- The summer registration is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>.

**SMALL FRY/LITTLE LEAGUE PROGRAM:** This past winter Carol held meetings with the Small Fry Board and one member of the Little League Board who at that time talked about a restructure that would take place in the spring to the Little League program. They proposed a change to the eligibility ages to both the Small Fry and Little League program. Under the new structure 9 year olds would be eligible to play Little League and Little League would have two levels (9 & 10 year olds and 11 & 12 year olds). The Little League Board decided against having two levels of players and did not restructure the program, this resulted in 15, 9 year olds being cut from Little League who needed to return to Small Fry baseball. Carol has reached out to the Little League coordinator to have more discussion about why the split levels did not happen, however they are not returning her calls or e-mails.

**GYMNASIUM SCORE BOARD:** The old score board in the gymnasium will be replaced in the fall. The new score board is an up graded version with led lights. Brattleboro Area Realty will be the sponsor for the new board and the Men's and Women's Basketball Leagues have both made donations toward the cost of the new scoreboard as well.

**BUDGET 2016/2017:** The FY17 budget includes \$165,000.00 for swimming pool repair and \$30,000.00 for windows in the Gibson Aiken Center.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn by Ben Underhill and 2nded by Todd Fontaine at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kimberly Isaacsen*

Kimberly Isaacsen, Administrative Assistant