

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Minutes – May 4, 2011

Next Meeting: August 3, 2011 7pm

In Attendance: Bert Barrier, Jim Farley, Don Verducci, Brigitte Geiger, Diana Schwarick, Hannah Marshall, Alex Roman, Liz Ouimet, Jim Lynch, Jill Daggon

- Committee Reports:

- MOHS Student Liaisons: Hannah – *Students have requested a yoga program and a cycling class. Jill has a meeting on Friday with a Yoga instructor. Rec doesn't have equipment for a cycling class.*
- Open Space: Jim Farley: *Trails Workdays: 3 consecutive Saturdays – May 7, 14 from 9am -12pm & 21 from 2pm-5pm. On May 7th, please meet at the MOHS rear parking lot by the maintenance sheds, to begin trail work from this access point. Trails will be remarked, trimmed/cleaned up. Volunteers should bring gloves, water, sack and trail GPS. If the day is rainy, the work day is canceled.*
- Park Development: *No report*
- Parks, Buildings & Grounds: Jim Lynch – *We've received about 32" of rain so far this season. The ground has been too soft for most equipment to be brought out to do much maintenance. However, most fields are open. At TBP, Soccer 1, Baseball 1 & 2 remain underwater. The new lacrosse field has its fencing going up now. Once the ground dries out, Jim will need about 3 days to have the DPW staff trench from the baseball tower to the location of the lax concession stand and have electric and water lines brought in. Gravel and millings are ready for the parking areas, but again, we are waiting for the rainy season to abate before bringing in heavy equipment. The baseball/football concession stand had significant water damage – a power outage trip breakers, frozen pipes burst. Repairs have been made. Flanders Park has the highest vandalism rate. It appears that vandals broke into the restroom/concession building after it was winterized and turned the water back on. This caused burst pipes, damaged toilets and sinks – about \$700 worth of damage, about ½ of the insurance deductible. Alex advocated installing security cameras. A resident complained about bikes and people on rollerblades were using the newly paved trails around the sports fields. Since these trails were initially part of a DOT T-21 grant (multi-use trail/transportation grant), bikes and other wheeled users are appropriate for these paths. Discussion was held concerning possible signage to be posted concerning rules/courtesy while using the trails.*
- Board of Ed/Mutual Facilities: Liz Ouimet – *School Board budget passed! Anthony Giordano will be President for the 2011/12 school year.*
- Mt. Olive Senior Club: Ron Perry: Absent. Jill reported that the Senior Club is producing a TV show to be aired on the Public Access Channel called "Silver & Gold". Filming will start next week. Hopefully the shows begin to air in June.

New Business:

- Turkey Brook Park Donor Sign – Friends of Turkey Brook Park – *A revised donor form is now available on our website. We have the first 6 sponsors lined up. Placards should be able to start being made next week. Please encourage your businesses and friends to become donors.*
- Flea Market/Yard Sale Saturday, 7/9 at Turkey Brook Park, 9am – 5pm Soccer Parking Lot – *This is a new 1 day event being organized by JC Productions who is spearheading the Greenfest at Vasa Park. Recreation will also be partnering with Mt. Olive Child Care & Learning Center in this one day fundraiser. Details to come.*
- Green Fundraiser – (Electronics) – *Recreation is looking at several ways to generate revenue through simple fundraising avenues. Recycling Fundraiser has a website (www.RecyclingFundraiser.com) to help non-profits and schools start an electronics recycling program. They have a well thought out start-up guide, FAQs, etc. Some of the school's PTA/PTO groups are already participating in this type fundraiser. We will need to identify several collection points to collect these items. Shipping is free. They have a price schedule of the amount each recycled item is worth. This would be an on-going effort, lasting 12 months. The committee agreed that it was worthwhile looking into to set-up this fundraiser. Possible collection points could include the Library, Senior Center, Municipal Building lobby and some local businesses, etc.*

- Mobi-Mat for wheelchair access at Beach (2010 ADA Standards) (Request Open Space funds?) – *Jill briefly mentioned the new 2010 ADA Standards for recreation facilities which includes beach access. We have had a request from a resident for beach access for her motorized wheelchair. The mobi-mat is an approved temporary surface that can be rolled out and staked for the season, and then stored out of season or easily moved during sand replenishment or work on the beach. As a “temporary” surface, it does not require DEP approval or permits. The current request for access is for the area by the picnic area, but eventually we will need to provide an accessible route from the parking lot through the main entrance and to all major amenities/activity areas, including the water. As we develop/improve the beach area, the mobi-mat can be moved to provide access to 1 day special events such as movie nights and concerts, as well as access to the water. The beach does not receive tax dollars to operate and Jill is reluctant to spend money on the beach without knowing what the revenue will be this year. This season is the first where residents will need to pay an admission fee or purchase beach tags. We would like to purchase 2 mats that are 78” wide, and 50’ long. Each mat is \$4,000 plus shipping. As an alternative, Jim L. looked at constructing sections of boardwalk that could put down as a temporary accessible route, made from recycled plastic lumber such as Trex. The cost of the material is over \$8,000. The committee recommended that Jim Farley as the RAC liaison to Open Space, ask if they would be willing to fund this purchase from Open Space.*
- Other:

Old Business

- Viridian Energy Fundraising proposal – alternate proposals/research – *Back in March, Jill provided information about a residual fundraising proposal through Viridian – where Recreation would set-up a link for residents who choose to switch their energy supplier to Viridian, they could choose Recreation as the charity to receive \$2 per month from their electric bill as a donation. Jill was asked to see what other companies might have to offer as a fundraiser. EMEX has an affiliate program where any entity can set-up their own “business” through their internet platform to solicit and manage commercial accounts switching energy providers. There is 2 mil per KW/h commission: paid annually to the entity. Recreation is not interested in trying to run an alternative energy company. There were no other companies with fundraising activities that we could participate in. The committee recommended moving forward with scheduling Viridian representatives to make a presentation at a council workshop to be able to implement this fundraising strategy.*
- Fairy Festival: May 21 at Turkey Brook Park gazebo & Great Lawn area 10am - 2pm. – *We have several activities lined up for children to participate in. Signs went up around town Wed, advertising the event. Liz suggested having the area preschools put up flyers/posters of the event and to make sure a flyer is posted in the BOE virtual backpack, and put up posters in the library, etc.*
- Beach Tags are on sale now through May 31st. *People are beginning to purchase beach tags. So far 89 beach tags have been sold (\$2106.00). Alex asked how many need to be sold to provide the needed funds to operate the beach. Jill did not have figures ready at the meeting, but the beach admission fees – whether through beach tags or walk-ins, needs to replace the \$34,000 previously donated to operate the beach. We expect that daily admissions will be the major source of revenue this summer. If 400 of the 1,000 families that had Beach IDs last year, purchase beach tags this summer, we will meet our goal.*
- Summer Staff trainings begin 5/16
- Sports Associations P & L reports – *We are still missing reports from some groups: MOBA, MOBSA, MOYH, MOJLC Boys. As reports come in, they will be emailed to the committee. We have no funds to distribute to the sports associations, but it is part of the requirement for quasi-entity status, to submit these reports annually.*
- Other: *PAL Fishing Derby is to be held at the PAL Pond this Sunday, Mother’s Day. Discussion was held about Recreation holding a fishing derby, perhaps at the irrigation pond at TBP. (Maier’s pond has parking and access issues) Jim mentioned he would like to eventually see access to the irrigation pond be improved and a bench installed for skaters, etc. Please let Jill know if there is a volunteer interested in coordinating a fishing derby.*
- Other: *Diana asked what was the status of the field maintenance plans that required the \$10 per player contribution from each of the sports groups using fields. Jim will send out an email to the sports associations, to pass along to their membership. Since we have been having heavy rains that have prevented much of the field work that needs to*

be done, Jim as delayed hiring the part time temporary staff, so they would not be paid for sitting around on rainy days. Hopefully within the next 2 weeks, he will be able to have field work begin. Scheduling these seasonals has to consider limiting their employment to cease before qualifying for unemployment, etc. So far, Recreation has received a little less than 1/3 of the projected amount needed. Adjustments will be made for each sports association, limiting requests to what is actually needed for the seasonal field work. If for some reason we cannot proceed with the seasonal employees, refunds will be given to the sports associations.

- **Committee meetings:**

- o Park Development Committee meeting
- o Mutual Facilities & Sports Associations' Committee 6pm 8/3

- **Continuing Concerns**

- o Suggestions for future programming, facilities, special events, Trips –
- o Community Service recommendations for Summer
- o Recommendations for Agenda – *please e-mail me!*

- **Special Events & Trips –**

- 5/8 MOPD Fishing Derby
- 5/10 Yankees Games! \$42 Leaves ITC Walmart at 4:15pm A few tickets left!
- 5/21 Fairy Festival at Turkey Brook Park
- 5/21 PowerWheels DTA Race Cup at Turkey Brook Park
- 6/18 Beach Opens! (Tues. Beach Features, Wed Family Movie Nights, 6/19 & 7/24 Concerts on the Beach 7/9 Regatta, 7/23-24 Family Camp Out, 7/27 Pirates of the Caribbean Party, 8/27 Last day of the season
- 7/9 Flea Market and Yard Sale at Turkey Brook Park
- 8/13-14 Green Summerfest at Vasa Park
- 9/20 Yankees Games! \$42 Leaves ITC Walmart at 4:15pm
- Sept TBA San Gennaro Festival in Little Italy
- 11/5 Fall Broadway trip (Sister Act, Wonderland)

Enclosures:

RAC Minutes (blue)

Viridian & EMEX fundraising info (green)

Mobi-Mat information (yellow)

Sports Associations P & L (Still waiting for MOBSA, MOBA, MOLC-Boys and MOYH) - white

Friends of Turkey Brook Park Donor Signs - white

Green (Electronics) fundraiser