

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes
November 17, 2009

A meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee was called to order on November 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Sherrillbrook Park. Those present were: Bill Bonsted, John Pryor, Lorraine Garfinkel, Jerry Pitarresi, John D'Amore, Deanne Balutis, Marilyn Montesano, Karri Eaton, Sean Virkler, and Mike Jeffery.

Mike Jeffery began the meeting by reviewing the dog run. 152 people have registered, and 81 of those are New Hartford residents. Revenues this year are at \$3,690.00. The 2010 renewals are at 25. The annual fee in 2010 will be \$35 for residents, \$70 for non residents. Resident senior citizens will be \$30, and \$60 for non residents. The dog run will remain open in the winter.

Mike Jeffery then briefly reviewed summer program attendance. The total number of participants for all programs was slightly down from the previous year. The swim program remained steady, and the playground was up in attendance. The water aerobics program attendance was low, and Mike Jeffery will decide if the program will run next year.

Mike Jeffery then stated Sherrillbrook Park trail renovations are complete. We expended \$19,200 of a \$20,000 grant. The project was on trail A. Drainage pipe was put in, gravel & wood chips for a natural look.

The Recreation Center capital project roof repair was then discussed. McDonald Montrose was hired for \$3,975 to advise us of the options to repair the roof. They recommended reroofing the main section with a metal roof panel system which has longevity of thirty to forty years. The estimate is \$333,500. An additional 7-10% is added on each year. \$356,000 has been recommended to be put in the 2010 budget as a capital project. Mike Jeffery briefly reviewed the town capital budget, and reviewed the bid process. The project will take 12 to 18 months to complete.

The Veterans Memorial pond and fountain has been installed. Bill Bonsted stated he has heard several complaints about the town working there. He stated that it is town land and some people don't know that. Mike Jeffery stated that we saved \$8,000 to \$10,000 doing the project.

A discussion then began on the budget. Mike Jeffery reviewed the park budget accounts. Seasonal help has been cut to seven employees. Non union employees will not receive a raise or longevity pay. The park budget is down 11% from two years ago. The playground program cost approximately \$83,000 to run and the revenue is approximately \$20,000. The fee for the playground will be raised from \$40 to \$90. The Rec Center budget has essentially remained the same. The public skating fees may go up \$1.00. There will continue to be a 3% annual increase on ice rentals. The band concerts have been cut with the exception of the New Hartford Citizens Band. Mike Jeffery then reviewed the new splash pad fees. New Hartford residents will be able to purchase a season pass. If you don't have a pass it will be \$1.00 per person. If you rent the pavilion the splash pad is included.

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Vandalism at the Rayhill Trail was discussed. Trash cans have been thrown in the water, and benches have been unbolted. Signs have also been damaged. Mike Jeffery stated he will have the trash cans and benches anchored down.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Owens