

**Recreation Commission Regular Meeting  
James Harmon Community Center- 44 Main Street  
Thursday, February 16, 2017 8 PM**

**TIME: 8:00PM**  
**PLACE: JAMES HARMON COMMUNITY CENTER, 44 Main Street**

I. **Call to Order**

II. **Public Comment**

III. **Old Business/Updates**

- Upcoming/ New programs

IV. **New Business**

- Uniontown Park update
- Hillside Park Tennis Courts update
- Chemka Pool – 2017 program update
- Chemka Pool – 2017 facilities update
- Sugar Pond Shed

V. **Adjournment**

In attendance:

David Downs, Angela Reeve, John Dailey, Samantha Merton, Gene Calmari.  
Lisa O'Reilly (Recreation Assistant)

Approval of January 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes.

Public Comment:

None

Old Business / Updates

Lisa O'Reilly shared how the relationships with Hastings' Tennis Bubble has kept the community's interest in tennis throughout the year, children through adults. A new youth soccer program is starting in March to be held at Hillside's All Purpose room.

New Business

Uniontown Park update

Gene Calamari (with Dan Sbrega) shared that they met with Gisolfi Associates architects specifically presenting three key items: fences to official measurement (out to 200 ft.); parking lot expansion to include 32+ cars; playground to be moved alongside basketball courts. The content of the playground will affect the plan depending upon what is chosen to be included. Costs should be minimized as much as possible. Gisolfi revising and reworking numbers to try to make it more reasonable. If this doesn't work, we will need to bid it out to other companies. The RFP is being fine-tuned to send out. There is a concern that the tennis court renovation could go above the assigned \$225K which could mean that other projects, namely Uniontown, could suffer, especially as the tennis court renovation is scheduled to be done earlier. Unsure as to when the date of the survey of the property will be – it has been commissioned but the report is not back.

#### Hillside Park Tennis Courts update

David Downs shared that Kendra Garrison had spoken to 2-3 vendors and that there had been approval from the Board of Trustees. The project is scheduled to be done in the spring. Richard Strobel reported that specifications had been drawn up and that while the footprint of the tennis courts will remain the same, eight trees will need to be taken down as there is concern about what damage they would cause during a storm. The Tree Board is involved and it was determined that these trees would need to be taken down regardless of tennis court plans.

#### Chemka Pool – 2017 program update

Val Harmon is the interim Pool Director and she prepared information on the pool programs. Minimum wage has increased to \$10/hr and we want to be able to offer this to our pool employees. Therefore to offset this increase in costs, our plan is to: increase price of birthday party rental from \$100 to \$125; increase Little Splashers classes from \$100 to \$125/week for members, \$125 to \$150/week for non-member, and daily rate from \$25 to \$30 for members and \$30 to \$35 for non-members; increase Big Splashers classes from \$100 to \$125/week for members, \$125 to \$150/week for non-member, and daily rate from \$25 to \$30 for members and \$30 to \$35 for non-members (half day); increase Big Splashers classes from \$200 to \$250/week for members with daily rate of \$55, \$225 to \$275/week for non-member and daily rate \$60 (full day); Group Lessons will increase \$70 to \$80/6 lessons for members and \$85 to \$95/6 lessons for non-members; 30 Minute Private Lessons will increase \$120 to \$140/6 lessons for members and \$240 to \$260/6 lessons for non-members. Ms. Harmon continued by pointing out that the Chemka Pool has a great staff who often start at 15 years old and remain through college, and that we need to treat them as professionals. PRC asked if these increases would offset the higher wages costs. Angela Reeve pointed out that former Recreation Superintendent Kendra Garrison had suggested to increase the number of out-of-district pool passes to help with any costs. We could consider adding more passes. Gene Calamari said that we need to consider the reasons in the past why we haven't increased our pool fees because if we do increase, then we won't be able to move back. PRC determined that permit fees went up approximately 5 years ago. With a 7% increase in staff costs, there could be a justification for a similar increase this year particularly as the bond is up soon. PRC voted to increase the prices of pool permit fees by 3% except for the senior \$99 pass which would remain the same.

#### Chemka Pool – 2017 facilities update

Richard Strobel, Parks Foreman, presented to PRC on repairs needed at Chemka Pool. The Health Department wrote Chemka Pool on a sanitary code violation for the Spray (wading) Pool which stated “the pool water level is only skimming on approximately 50% of the pool perimeter instead of skimming around the entire perimeter of the pool.” The Health Department needs this problem to be resolved in one year as there is a possibility of parasites to infiltrate the pool water. They would allow Chemka Pool to open in 2017 if we agreed to hire an independent lab to analyze the water weekly and if any parasites were found, the Spray Pool (only) would be shut down for the remainder of the season until repair made. We want to fix the problem ASAP. Mr. Strobel contacted the pool builder to get an estimate which costs \$40-\$50K. Then Mr. Strobel reached out to two companies which would take a different approach to fix the problem: concrete lifting in order to raise one side of the pool to meet the other. This is done by injecting a polyurethane foam to lift the side of the pool. The first company was Basement Systems of New York and the second company was ConcRaised. Mr. Strobel recommended to use Basement Systems of New York with their estimate of \$5287.50 to raise the pool and then \$2125 to raise the pool deck to match deck heights around the pool, making a total cost of \$10,412.50. The price is assuming they can do the lifting directly from the trench – if they need to drill, we would need to add the cost of a liner to be reinstalled. In addition, Mr. Strobel wants to install a commercial UV Disinfection System to work in conjunction with the current filter which is now required by code for new pools and inactivates parasites, total cost \$6891.31. PRC voted to approve having the Spray pool repaired however suggested that we wait until the current issue is resolved before purchasing/installing the Disinfection System.

#### Sugar Pond Shed

Richard Strobel, Parks Foreman, presented to PRC on repairs needed on the Sugar Pond Shed. He shared photos of how, in the current state of the shed, it could present a hazard to people if they were to go in it. It is severely decrepit and run down. In the current state, Mr. Strobel says that the shed is danger of fully collapsing or being vandalized, and is a potential liability for people around it. Mr. Strobel reach out to get an estimate to remove the collapsed roof down to concrete block, replace with new rafters and plywood, with the intention of storage for the Parks & Recreation Dept. The estimate was \$18,750, which does not include a new concrete floor which may be needed.

While PRC understood the dangers and liabilities, PRC was also concerned about current capital projects that are in the works. It was also noted that Sugar Pond itself is in need for dredging in the future. PRC asked Mr. Strobel if something more temporary could be done to the shed at this time – remove roof and tarp the building. This is the plan at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday March 16, 2017 at 8:00pm @ James Harmon Community Center