

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2013
REGULAR MEETING**

Call to Order

Secretary Kelly Weymer called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.

Present – Christine Bavone, Kenn Maher, Greg Baktis, Joyce Silberkleit, *Elaine Raccio and Director Debbie Gatto.

Amendment to the Agenda

MOTION by Joyce Silberkleit to move Audience of Citizens to the next item on the agenda. Second by Christine Bavone. **Vote** – All ayes. Motion carried.

Audience of Citizens

Don Schmiedecke of 235 Riggs Street came to discuss starting a travel basketball league. It will begin with a trial team of 6th grade boys. Games would be played in Derby, where approximately 10 to 11 towns participate with at least one team per town. Games are held on weekends, with teams playing at least one game. The entry fee is \$475, which is divided among the players. He asked if there was an available gym for practice. Mrs. Gatto noted that time was available at the Center School gym.

*Chair Elaine Raccio arrived at 7:45 P.M.

Mr. Schmiedecke explained the travel league provides more experience and competition for players. He said that next year the league could include 6th, 7th and 8th boys and girls teams. When asked if this would take away from the recreation league, Mr. Schmiedecke said it would be a benefit to the recreational players and he would be glad to have the league under Youth Basketball.

Review and Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Joyce Silberkleit to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 2, 2013. Seconded by Greg Baktis. **Vote** – All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence - None

Treasurer's Report

50% of the FY 2013-2014 has been expended.

The dumpsters at Jackson Cove a and Posypanko Park will be removed.

The maintenance staff is down to one for the winter season.

MOTION by Kelly Weymer to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second by Greg Baktis. **Vote** – All ayes. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of Bills - None

Director's Report

Mrs. Gatto was contacted about an Oxford/ Southbury softball team. Elaine Raccio said there should be no discussion as the matter has not been brought before the softball league.

Discussion on banning pets from playscape areas. The Commission was concerned about health and safety issues that can occur with pets. The Board of Selectmen will be asked to amend Ordinance 96.11 Animals to include no pets are allowed in playscape or playground areas.

Turkey Shoot – 11/14

Tree Lighting – 12/6 – Due to the new “Christmas Tree” being in its childhood the Tree Lighting Ceremony will have a Charlie Brown Christmas theme.

Committee\ Liaison Reports

Tetlak Committee is looking at putting in two softball fields and instead of four tennis courts there would be two volleyball and two basketball courts.

Other Business

Discussion on 2014 regular meeting schedule.

MOTION by Kelly Weymer to hold the 2014 regular meetings on the first Monday of the month at 7 P.M. at the Oxford Town Hall. Second by Kenn Maher. **Vote** – All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion on the Travel Basketball league

Greg Baktis, Director of the Youth Basketball league, agreed with Mr. Schmiedecke that the travel league helps the recreation league, by having the more skilled and competitive players play on their own team. This allows the recreational players more time to develop their skills and to participate in games.

MOTION by Kelly Weymer to approve the use of the Center School gym for the pilot travel 6th grade basketball team. Second by Kenn Maher. **Vote** - All ayes. Motion carried.


Adjournment

MOTION by Kenn Maher to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 P.M. Second by Greg Baktis. **Vote** – All ayes. Motion carried.

FILED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted


Cynthia Peck
Clerk

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TOWN OF OXFORD, CT

TOWN CLERK