

# *Park and Recreation Commission*

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## **Minutes**

(meeting taped)

Monthly meeting: Monday, March 10, 2014 in the City Hall.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

By roll call, members present: Andrew Cota, Nick Serednitsky, Ronald Sill and John Monahan. Beverly Moran, James Benanto and Frank Rubino were excused.

Parks and Recreation Director Dennis O'Connell and Athletic Director Joseph Orazetti were present.

### **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

Motion made by Ron Sill and second by Nick Serednitsky. Move to accept the agenda, with the deletion of the election of a chair. Motion carried unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made Nick Serednitsky and second by John Monahan. Move to accept the minutes of February 10, 2014, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC PORTION:**

Peter Olenoski, from the Little League, reserved the right to speak on agenda items during the meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCES:**

Nothing was presented.

### **DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

**Parks & Recreation Director's Report:** Mr. O'Connell reported that basketball season has wrapped up.

Little League registration is completed. They will have two major league teams and 3 minor league teams and will be playing with the other valley towns as they have done in the past. Mr. O'Connell is working on the fence project at the field.

The spring High School programs are preparing to start. It was noted that St. Mary's School is organizing a girl's softball team and they are working with Mr. Orazetti to coordinate the schedule. They will be playing at the Amendola Complex at Bradley School. The Middle School is also developing a girl's softball team.

Mr. O'Connell stated that the Little League is seeking to install a second batting cage in the common area outside of the playing fields. He saw no issue with the placement as it is in the location of a prior cage, by the stairs. Mr. Orazetti saw no issue as long as it did not impact the practice area of the field. Mr. Olenoski explained that the poles and netting would be removable and that the footing inserts would be flush with the ground avoiding a trip hazard. Members were comfortable with its placement as long as Mr. O'Connell supervised its installation and it was understood that Little League would take care of its installation and maintenance without any financial support from the City.

Members and the directors discussed football spring practice. This has been done for approximately 12 years. Field space is at a premium with spring programs occupying all locations. It was decided that the practice will likely be held on the football field, sharing the space with the High School baseball

program. Mr. O'Connell indicated that he has been working well with the new public works director. He will continue to coordinate with the public works director and his staff for field maintenance concerns.

**High School Athletic Director's Report:** Mr. Orazetti presented with Mr. O'Connell's report.

**NEW or OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mr. O'Connell stated that the Parks and Recreation budget will be presented to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation tomorrow evening. He noted that even with the requested pay raises, the overall budget shows a zero increase. He is hopeful it will be well received.

Motion by Ron Sill and second by John Monahan. Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully prepared,

*Karen Kemmesies*

Karen Kemmesies, secretary

*These minutes are subject to the Commission's approval at their next scheduled meeting.*