

**PORTLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING May 10, 2010**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Ralph Zampano, Chairman, called the Portland Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL AND SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Members Present: Chairman Ralph Zampano, Tom Ladny, Ellen Kelley, Chris Donahue, Steve Steinkamp

Members Absent: Hilary Phelps, Peter Zaborowski

Town Administration: Sean Dwyer, Parks and Recreation Director

3. ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion by Steve Steinkamp to accept the agenda of the May 10, 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Ellen Kelley seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

4. APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2010 MEETING

Motion by Chris Donahue to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. Ellen Kelley seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

5. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Rails to Trails (Airline Trail): Plans are underway to use GPS to mark all the trail systems in town. The project will begin sometime in October. This will give some additional time to improve the trail system. Once this has occurred, the GPS information will be added to the town's webpage. The airline trail will be one of the trails done. There was discussion about possibly adding the 5-K road race course as well. It was noted that Ms. Rhodes will be the point person for the project. Mr. Dwyer also

noted that the letter from Susan Bransfield was sent to CL&P. Mr. Dwyer will get a copy of the letter to Commission members for the next meeting.

Gildersleeve School Property: No report.

Portland Riverfront Park: Mr. Dwyer provided an update on the progress being made on the entranceway area. The stone is there, as well as the materials for the gate which still needs to be installed. A barrier system is in place until this is complete. Major focus over next couple of months will be to work from the area near the road to the proposed kiosk area. The Brownstone Quorum has put a request for the donation of about 58 plants for this area. It was noted that June 19th is the summer kick-off event. Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Portland Library and the Brownstone Quorum to host a variety of activities in an effort to get people down to the park. Some discussion ensued regarding the eventual need of a maintenance plan for the area, as well as when the oversight of the property would transfer to the town.

The Goodrich Property: Mr. Dwyer received the plan from Mr. Jacobson in the mail on Friday. This item will be discussed further at the June meeting.

Youth Basketball: No report.

Swimming Lessons: No report.

Rehab Existing Fields: Brownstone Park is open. The contractor will be coming in at the end of the year to do upgrades and re-grading of certain areas. Middlesex Avenue contractor is currently on site.

5K Road Race: A packet of information was distributed to Commission members. A discussion ensued regarding the possibility of buying a timer with the funds raised from the event. It was determined that Mr. Dwyer would check with the track coach to see if he would be available to attend the next meeting. The goal this year is to have 150 runners and raise \$3,000. The task list was reviewed with Commission members.

Re-evaluate Commission Goals: No report.

Brownstone Intermediate School Play Area: No update. Mr. Dwyer indicated that he would have more information for the June meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Park Hours: Mr. Dwyer noted that the permit process will need to be reviewed and discussed at some point. For now, Mr. Dwyer is looking for Commission members to vote on the hours of the parks. Some discussion ensued regarding the fact that there may be exceptions for lit facilities like tennis courts or basket ball courts.

[Tom Ladny left the meeting at 9:03 p.m.]

Motion by Christopher Donahue to authorize the purchase of signs that indicate “parks closed from dusk until dawn, except with permit.” Ellen Kelley seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ellen Kelley to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Steve Steinkamp seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Matterazzo
Recording Secretary