

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
Recreation & Community Services Department
100 Riverview Center
Suite 140
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

MINUTES
Recreation & Community Services Commission Meeting of April 9, 2015
Senior and Community Center, 61 Durant Terrace, Middletown, CT 06457
6:00 p.m.

Present: David Bauer, Anthony Jaskot, Phil Pessina, Gerry Winzer, Lucy Bettencourt
Mary Bartolotta Rick Romano

Absent: Gordan Adams, Tom Hutton, Ed Dypa, William Wasch

Staff
& Students: Deb Stanley

Public: no public present

Call: Meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

Public
Hearing: no public present

Minutes: Chairman Pessina motioned to approve the minutes from February 12, 2015. Commissioner Bauer moved the motion. Commissioner Bartolotta seconded. Commissioner Jaskot mentioned a friendly amendment to include that clubs should submit what they expect to need for following FY when they submit their sport grant application by February 15th each year. All voted in favor.

Report: Deb Stanley- reported that Senior Division had an eye/ health program. 25 people were in attendance. Submitted both rec and senior reports. Senior Division is starting monthly tours of our facility. Currently setting dates and times for tours. Flyers are available with building history. Also starting a volunteer club and establishing a date and time for them to meet. Many seniors have been helping with tasks. Senior Expo was May 5th, 2015. There were 25 exhibitors in attendance. Italian night was successful. Line dancing is a new senior program. Bus trip to Shubert sold out. Recreation - Easter candy hunt had 375 children plus families participate. Building committee approved expenditure on additional furniture. Busing to Senior and Community Center no longer running as frequently. No issues so far. Now have to call dial a ride 24 hours in advance. Commissioner Bettencourt questioned if rivers edge is included in bus pick up. Chairman Pessina said that senior housing on Newfield & Stoneycrest – pre arranges a pick up. Rivers edge not a senior place. Lots of seniors get on at rivers edge. Contact Stoneycrest to see if seniors want a scheduled pick up. They may not be aware that busing is available. Bettencourt – wants Ann to go to all senior places to set up transportation. Why do they pay MAT to go to doctor and not pay to get to senior center was questioned? Commissioner Bartolotta stated that it is not a direct run to go to the doctors. Bauer – new senior center and busing is promotional. Stanley commented that she has had no negative complaints about reduced bussing. New grill in place for cook outs. There will be a BBQ April 15 at 5:30. Rowing classes – not storing their stuff here anymore. Space limited. Bauer – riverfront development will make significant changes to boathouses going forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Sports Grant Funding** - minimum of 5% must be used for needy. Bauer – concerned that we don't turn anyone away. Language on grant needs to be more explicit. If club gets grant funds from city. Bauer thought that no child be turned away that needs financial assistance. Bartolotta believes they may have individuals taking advantage of program. Need to make sure there really is a financial need. Pessina – no youth will be denied by reason of financial need. Replace first bullet in grant application. Based on financial aid application.

Commissioner Bauer – also wants clubs to specifically list it in their grant application how money is spent. How much they will need to go for financial assistance. Bartolotta questioned when they are re-upping on storage unit. Romano said he will find out for soccer, basketball, and little league. Bartolotta calling mayor office for more information. Lot of space available at 180 Johnson Street. Romano stated that reduced or discounted fees are a great idea. Bartolotta concerned how we can establish consistency. Chairman Pessina wants rules set for organizations. Uniformity on how fees are discounted. Commissioner Winzer strongly feels that if they don't itemize in their application it should not be accepted. Bartolotta wants leagues to know that they must itemize or grant application will be rejected. Romano said Middletown youth soccer rents from Remington Rand. Commissioner Bartolotta wants to review grant applications thoroughly.

- **Facility usage agreements and fees** - tabled to next meeting
- **Status of City playing fields** – Bauer had to leave public works did get facility reports in a package a lot to discuss in it. Total to Malone and McBroom \$28.165 million dollars to restore fields. Great report. Regular meeting will get a better breakdown.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Transportation**

Motion: Chairman Pessina motioned to adjourn. Winzer moved the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Jody Krupa
cc Town Clerk