

Brooklyn Parks and Recreation Commission

Regular Meeting

December 8, 2014

Commission members present : Mike Gaudreau, Steve Danna, Kim Conroy ,and Chris Toney, Cliff Soucy

Also present: Bucky Lohbusch, Director Chris Boyle,Secretary

Absent: John Don Fransicso, Scott Allen

Public: Marion Korvin, Terry Lazure

Called to Order: 7:00pm

1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:

Motion made: 1st Kim Conroy 2nd Cliff Soucy All In Favor

2. Approval of Monthly budget reports: Discussion

Motion made: 1st Steve Danna 2nd Chris Toney All in Favor

3. Commission Meeting Schedule for 2015

Motion made to submit the Meeting Schedule to Leona Mainville, It will continue to be the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Clifford B Green Building.

Motion made: 1st Cliff Soucy 2nd ChrisToney All in Favor

4. Capital Committee representative

After discussion, Mike Gaudreau volunteered to be the Capital representative.

5. 2015/2016 Budget/Prince hill handout

Discussion on needs for the 2015/2016 year. Potentially looking at a new playscape as well as moving it and putting tennis courts at Prince Hill.; also considering low key lighting in the parking lot at Prince Hill. The plan is to apply for a Steep Grant to cover much of the cost of these needs. At this point the commission is gathering information and potential estimated costs to apply for grants. There may be potential for a small cities grant for the South Street Park too.

The Commission will have to set priorities on the needs of the Parks in future meetings.

The Budget discussions will begin in January with a budget subcommittee meeting. Dates will be set at the January 12th meeting.

6. Teen Center Update

There are seventeen members signed up. The computers are up and running.

The first trip is December 20th to Nomads. The trip is offered at no cost to the teens.

There is a facebook page to continue to advertise the Teen Center, There will be another flyer going to the schools. Potential tables will be set up at the high schools to promote the center. Woodstock High school students are volunteering to tutor, and the Dempsey Center will be having a dance, our teen center members will help out as part of community service.

There are pool and game tournaments in progress and the contest for naming the center is ongoing.

After the holidays, the goal is to have 30 teens signed up by February. There is some discussion about opening the center up to sixth graders.

The hope is to allow the program to grow; it takes time to build a program.

There is scholarship money available through the Jim Boyle Scholarship Fund for teens who would like to join but need financial assistance.

The BOF rep., Kim Conroy, would like Bucky to write the plan so she can present it to the Board of Finance.

7. Program Update

The Knights of Columbus in Conjunction with the Rec. Dept had an extremely successful coat drive for the community. It is the first time that the KOC have come to this area. 300 new coats were given to families in need.

The Knights of Columbus are giving Recreation 40 more coats to include in the toy drive

The toy drive will be this weekend. 49 families + will receive toys. The Brooklyn school is also donating PJ's for the drive.

The holiday lighting contest is in its last year. Due to the increasing cost of electricity there is less participation . A coloring contest will be the new focus next year, prizes will be given out. This contest is run in conjunction with the Brooklyn post office. Last year there were 50 submissions.

Santa letters are still coming in and being sent to the North Pole.

The Spring . Summer Brochure will be sent out in January.

8. Public Time

Ms. Lazure Feels the teen center is a good idea, and the BOF shouldn't expect many sign-ups over the holidays. She asked about the hours of the center and plans to visit and may like to volunteer at the center.

Ms Lazure was provided with a Fall Brochure which she had not received, in the free bulk mailing. Bucky will check with the post office to make sure ALL Brooklyn residents are receiving the brochures.

Ms. Korvin also feels the Teen Center is a good idea, even though she originally was not in favor of the idea. She also intends to visit the center. She had some questions about the Prince Hill project and wanted to make sure the projects go out to bid. Kim Conroy explained that the processes will be strictly followed and at this point the estimates are strictly for applications for grants. If the grants are obtained the projects would then go out to bid. Ms. Korvin is in favor of improvements being made to Prince Hill as she spends time walking there.

Ms. Korvin asked for an update on Disc Golf. The course is playable but not complete. The T-boxes must be finished but do to winter approaching, it will not be completed until the spring. The course is being played on and is rated very good course in the area.

Ms. Korvin was very pleased with her first attendance at a Recreation meeting. She thanked the Rec Commission for all their hard work and dedication to involving the community.

9. Adjournment 8:25

Motion made: 1st Chris Toney 2nd Cliff Soucy All in favor