



Gates Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting

March 13, 2018



Those in attendance:

Commissioners:	Rhoda Ride	John Unson
	Brom Bianchi	Greg Westbrook
	Steve Murphy	
Director:	Dan Hoock	
Liaison:	Chris DiPonzio	
Absent:	Eileen Andrews	
	Rob Keister	

The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:32PM by Rhoda Ride.

The minutes from the February meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Greg Westbrook and seconded by John Unson, to accept the February minutes. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as written.

Financial Report:

The January and February budget sheets were reviewed with the following questions raised:

1. January budget sheet - under A7140.455 the question was raised about the monies budgeted for cell phones. Dan Hoock explained how cell phones are used throughout the department, especially at camp sites. He also explained that cell phones are locked up.
2. Rhoda Ride asked about the budget amount on line item A7610.437 - Line Dancing. Dan Hoock explained this was the salary monies budgeted for the Line Dancing instructor.
3. Greg Westbrook raised a question on the February budget sheet, under line item A7140.200 - Equipment expenses. Dan Hoock explained the large amount spent under this code number was for a new transport. The department recently purchased a Chrysler Pacifica to replace the old van that was in poor shape. Verification needs to be made as to which budget year these monies were scheduled to be taken out of (2017? or 2018?) Dan will check with Art Plewa to verify this and report back at the April meeting.
4. Dan Hoock reported the monies listed on the January budget sheets for line item A7140.200 are for electrical work done on the new amphitheater in Memorial Park. Dan needs to verify whether or not these monies are carried over from the 2017 budget, or if they are being taken from the 2018 budget. He will report back at the April meeting concerning this.

A motion was made by Greg Westbrook and seconded by Rhoda Ride to accept the financial reports for January and February. The vote was unanimous to accept these reports as written.

Correspondence:

Nothing at the time.

Evaluation of Past Programs:

A discussion of the following programs occurred:

1. Sweetheart Dance - This program was reviewed and discussed. Rhoda Ride pointed out the suggestion made by Cindy Briggs (staff coordinator of this program) to retire this event was appropriate. It's an expensive project to undertake, the attendance was low, and it has been offered for several years and therefore might be stale. Dan Hoock agreed, and this program would be put on hold for planning for next year.
2. Dan Hoock mentioned he felt the department isn't connecting with the needs of our community, and he was looking to make the changes to have that connection happen. Discussion followed on this. It was pointed out the demographics of the Gates community are very different than those of Chili or Hilton, and therefore program offerings need to reflect that difference.
3. Rhoda Ride asked why activities of February Recess Camp included a trip to the aquatic center in Perinton since we have facilities available in our own community? (GCHS pool? Hidden Valley? YMCA?) Discussion followed on this topic. It was mentioned that Stacie Paris (staff coordinator) felt the Perinton pool was more "kid friendly" than the other facilities mentioned. Dan Hoock will follow up as to other pool options closer to Gates. A second question pertaining to the staff and child ratio was raised by Rhoda Ride. Dan Hoock explained that more staff were used for the field trips for safety reasons, and that most of the time, the ratio was 1 staff member to 8 children. Discussion followed about safety concerns. John Unson asked if all the children had gone on the field trip and Dan said, "yes" including all the staff scheduled for that day. Dan mentioned he went to the field trip held at TSE and enjoyed observing all the activities. Dan asked if the Commission's expectation of this Recess Camp was to be profit making, or just to be a break-even event? Chris DiPonzio shared that this program should certainly make enough money to cover its costs, but it wasn't meant to be a money maker. Chris also shared this was the opinion of the Town Supervisor, Mark Assini as well as the town financial comptroller, Art Plewa. Dan Hoock thanked everyone for their input.

4. Rhoda Ride mentioned the Scrapbooking Program (coordinated by Cindy Briggs) was a money making program that not only covered all its expenses, but a profit also. Discussion followed. John Unson pointed out that many of the people who sign up for this program are non-residents and therefore are charged more. Rhoda mentioned also that because it was coordinated by a staff member, additional salary compensation was not necessary.

Old Business:

Easter Egg Hunt:

Dan Hoock reported all the candy/gifts for this event will be here by the end of this week, and that he would be going out tomorrow to get the gift cards for the special gold eggs. He shared a map of the TSE facility to show where the activities will be held. Dan reported a new Easter Bunny costume has been purchased to replace the old one that was in poor condition. Rhoda Ride will act as the MC for this event, and Lee Cordaro (Town Board) will assist. It was suggested the sound system be checked out ahead of time to make sure it works properly. Dan will follow up on this. Dan shared the entertainment will include a Bubble Party for the younger children and the older children will have a GaGa Pit available to play in. Face Painting will be done by the HS volunteers,. Steve Murphy asked about the gifts being awarded as prizes, and Dan explained that a variety of small stuffed animals (bunnies, ducks and lambs) will be available for the younger children and light up spike balls will be given to the older children. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Kenny Kemp Easter Egg Hunt, there will be six special golden eggs set out on each field, and those golden eggs will entitle the winners to a \$25 gift card from a local community supporter.

Volunteer Brunch:

Dan Hoock shared the invitations have been sent out (sample included in packet), the gifts have been ordered and several people have already sent in their RSVP. Dan asked about sending out some additional invitations and it was agreed to only send an invitation to the president of the Gates Garden Club. Dan will take care of this. Listed below are other items discussed:

- Rhoda Ride shared that Cindy Briggs did an outstanding job on designing the invitation.
- Gift bags and tissue paper have been purchased to wrap the gifts purchased for this event. These gifts will be put on a table for distribution when the guests to this event leave.
- Rhoda Ride suggested that we should have name tags made up to distribute to the guests. These will serve a two-fold purpose, one to identify the guests, and secondly to track the attendance of who is in attendance. Dan will follow up on this.
- Rhoda Ride asked Chris DiPonzio to be the speaker at this event and asked that this not include any political overtones. This is meant to be a thank you to all the volunteer groups who support our community with their services. All agreed this was a good idea.

Renaming of Westgate Park:

Rhoda Ride asked for a update on this project as this will help Dan Hoock be brought up to speed on the status of this program. It was explained the proposed idea is to rename the existing park to be called the Col. Robert Abbott Park at Westgate Park to honor this local hero. Chris DiPonzio will check to see where the monies for the new signage needed will come from and report back at our next meeting. This program is scheduled to occur in October, 2018. Rhoda will also follow up on making contact with the family also.

Town Park Status:

Dan Hoock explained that he would like to meet with each Commissioner(s) at the various parks they are assigned to. He feels this would be an opportunity to find out what each Commissioner feels is important to address related to equipment needs/updates, general condition on the property and also any new ideas of how these parks could be used. The following is a listing of the park assignments:

Memorial Park	-	Rhoda Rida and Chris DiPonzio
Wegman Rd. Park	-	Rob Keister
Town Park	-	Brom Bianchi and Greg Westbrook
Lions Park	-	John Unson and Eileen Andrews
Westgate Park	-	Greg Westbrook and Steve Murphy

Miscellaneous Information Discussed:

Dan shared a sheet with the Commissioners related to his proposed ideas for budgeting monies for equipment. A brief discussion took place on these expenditures. Greg Westbrook shared that updating the basketball hoops at Westgate Park was a wonderful idea and long overdue. It was discussed this would be monies well spent as this activity at the park is well supported by the community. Rhoda Ride shared that keeping the park lights on later and the restrooms open is helpful too. Brom Bianchi asked for an explanation of what resealing the tennis courts in Lions Park would entail? Dan explained that a professional outside company would be doing this project, and not our maintenance dept. Dan mentioned, he would like to introduce a youth tennis program once these courts are in better shape. Brom Bianchi also mentioned that Pickle Ball is very popular right now, and wondered if the department would be offering this as an option? Dan explained this would be happening and that he was planning on teaching this himself. Rhoda Ride mentioned that we need to be mindful that ADA regulations need to be met related to this program and that if Dan checked with the Center for Independent Living he would be able to get a current listing of what ADA regulations are. Dan will follow up on that suggestion.

Dan Hoock shared a catalog with information about shirts to order for the Commissioners. Rhoda Ride asked that long sleeved, collared shirts be considered. A brief discussion followed. It was decided to put this project on hold until more investigation can be done on a source for these shirts.

Dan Hoock distributed the updated address/email listing of the Commission and staff of the department.

Dan Hoock reported the mock up of the upcoming brochure was available for review. This printing will include more colored sheets.

Rhoda Ride asked about the status of Dick Clark? Dan explained that March 29 will be his last work day before he starts his retirement and that Frank Andolina will be taking over this job responsibility.

The following Commissioners will be attending the Volunteer Reception: Rhoda Ride, Greg Westbrook, Brom Bianchi and Chris DiPonzio.

Rhoda Ride shared the GCSD will be hosting the "Relay for Life" on April 20. This is a student run program and will include a food truck rodeo. The following Commissioners volunteered to help out: Rhoda Ride, Greg Westbrook, Chris DiPonzio and Steve Murphy.

On April 13 the Gates Keystone Club will be playing basketball against the GC faculty and staff. Profits from this program will go to GC Community Connection.

Greg Westbrook shared information about the NYS Citizen Preparedness for Emergency course being offered on April 15 at Holy Ghost Church. This 2-hour course will cover many emergency situations and will also distribute free emergency kits to take home (if enough people sign up) For further information, please go on line at: www.dhSES.ny.gov/aware-prepare/nysprepare

Good of the Order:

Steve Murphy: Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Greg Westbrook: Nothing at this time

Valerie Young: Nothing at this time

Brom Bianchi: Nothing at this time

Rhoda Ride: Nothing at this time

Dan Hoock: Nothing at this time

John Unson: I will be traveling to Orlando, FL over spring break with the baseball team, so I won't be able to help with the Easter Egg Hunt.

Chris DiPonzio: The musical, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" is the play that is being presented by the school district. I hope everyone is able to attend. The kids have worked very hard on this project!

A motion was made by Steve Murphy and seconded by John Unson the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Young
Recording Secretary