

Town of Middlebury Parks and Recreation



Betsy Anderson, Director

COMMISSIONERS
Ron Clark, Chairman
Carolanne Browne
Mike Roach
Robert Mastroianni
Harold Zinno III

MIDDLEBURY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 11, 2024

Present: Betsy Anderson, Director
Ron Clark, Chairman
Carolanne Browne
Mike Roach
Robert Mastroianni
Harold Zinno III

Absent: Sharon Bosco

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Ron Clark called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. He welcomed Harold Zinno III to the board.

APPROVE MINUTES

- **December 14, 2023**

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Mike Roach and seconded by Robert Mastroianni to **APPROVE** the December 14, 2023 meeting minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

GREENWAY REPORT:

Nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUDGET

Nothing to report.

PERSONNEL

Nothing to report.

BUILDING AND PARKS

Mike Roach reminded the Commission that they spoke about the contract between PYB and Smash last month. He spoke with both organizations and they are still working well with each other. He wanted the Commission to discuss the contract as a group. Mike Roach spoke with Jason Cooling, who provided him with some of the numbers for the teams. PYB had 314 registered players for the spring roster, 89 of which are from Middlebury and the fall roster had 141 registered players, 37 of which are from Middlebury. He confirmed that Smash Factory paid them the \$1000.00 in October per the contract. He said they had no issue with Smash Factory last year.

Mike Roach said they started the sale of signage last year to help with the expenses. He noted that PYB would use the fields more if they were available. Carolanne Browne noted the scheduling would be between the two organizations. Betsy Anderson reviewed the past billing issues, agreements and follow through they had with Smash Factory. She noted that Smash won't contact the office to inform them when they are not using the fields. Carolanne Browne felt it should be noted in the contract regarding when payment is due and to notify when they are not using the fields. Betsy Anderson said they also use the fields longer than the allotted time they have.

A discussion ensued regarding the contract.

Mike Roach read Jerry's points to the Commission. He reported there have been no issues to date, they spend money and time maintaining the field and making sure it is playable, have a good system in place with PYB, both have plans in the spring fix/replace the mound on the smaller Quassy Field, they only require 2 days a week for practice and he feels they both work great together. Mike Roach said the field is getting used a lot and the programs are flourishing.

A discussion ensued regarding the sale of signs for Quassy Field.

Ron Clark said a decision regarding the contract needs to be made before April. He suggested having him come to one of the meetings to speak to the Commission. Betsy Anderson reminded the board they have a long relationship with PYB and they could benefit from more field time.

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Carolanne Browne and seconded by Mike Roach to **DISCONTINUE** the agreement with Smash Factory between PYB and the usage of Middlebury's fields, if he chooses to talk with the Commission to mend the relationship he can, due to the past four years of behavior they will sever the relationship with Smash Factory.

Ron Clark said they will notify the parties by mail and he may come in and appeal.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Carolanne Browne said she wanted to discuss the concert series. She would like to start speaking to the banks about sponsoring. She will be getting the survey back out regarding the spring concerts. She noted that the license for Survey Monkey is due to be renewed. Carolanne Browne noticed the line item in the budget for Concert Reserve fund. She asked if this is money they will be able to use. Betsy Anderson answered yes and she will be presenting the budget this month to the Board of Finance and she will find out more information then. Carolanne Browne said next month she would like to discuss the number of concerts they want held.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Betsy Anderson reported they received 151 letters to Santa this year, and they got positive feedback regarding them. They have added a cardio strength program which will start next week. There is nothing new to report on the parks. They will begin Memorial Day Parade preparations soon. She also noted they will need to start discussion on the MRA passes. She will discuss the tree on the green next month as well.

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Mike Roach and seconded by Robert Mastroianni to **APPROVE** the Directors Report.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Review of the 2023 year**

NEW BUSINESS

- **Discussion of Activities for 2024**

Ron Clark said for next month's discussion they need to think outside the box for new things they can do for new programs. The concert series were well received. He encouraged everyone to talk with Betsy Anderson.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED: Unanimously on a motion by Mike Roach and seconded by Carolanne Browne to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 7:14 PM

cc: Town Clerk
Commission Members
Betsy Anderson
Sharon Bosco