

RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

December 3, 2007

7:00 PM

PRESENT: T. Carl Hemple Sr., Melissa Hemple, Jim Ridgeway, Bill Spence, Brian Swanson, Cindy Swanson, Dulce Gomez, Cindy Wilks

Meeting called to order by Chairman T. Carl Hemple Sr.

September 2007 and November 2007 minutes were approved. The November minutes were corrected-only Pepi Dragotta has missed 3 meetings. John Daddario was excused from a meeting. Jim Ridgeway reported that Sam Hunter asked to be excused from the December meeting.

Recreation Department – Director’s Report

Festival of Lights was a success with the potential to grow next year. There was a steady stream of visitors attending and plenty of positive feedback.

Boys’ Basketball – Security will now cost approximately \$5100 instead of \$20,000. There is a basketball meeting with PAL on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The basketball league is considering combining services with PAL because PAL has the funds to help with security. Security will be needed for the Saturday and Sunday games, it will not be required for practices since practices are closed to spectators. The subject of practice locations other than the High School was introduced with the Union Baptist Church center near Rte. 49 a possible location.

Skatepark – The Skatepark committee is trying to obtain grants to equal the city’s share (\$51000) to begin work on the facility. Melissa suggested the recreation committee help with the removal of the fence, shrubs, trees etc. during the spring clean up to help lower costs. Melissa stated that the cost to have the trees removed is \$5000.00. Bill Spence asked if removal of the trees was going to present a problem as the park is Green Acres. Melissa is going to check on the situation. Carl asked if the rec. committee was okay with the spring clean up idea and it was agreed upon with the condition that the skatepark committee demonstrate to the rec. committee that they were trying to help themselves and get the project moving. Dulce asked if the skatepark committee was doing anything else besides trying to obtain grants, such as lining up volunteers to help with some of the work. Carl mentioned that the Skatepark Committee has lost a significant number of members.

New phone numbers for Recreation Department:

Rec. department direct – (856) 453-1675

Melissa’s direct number – (856) 453-1673

Still have (856) 455-3230 ext. 280

Committee Reports –

House Decorating Contest update – Entry forms are available at various locations downtown and the recreation department. If anyone sees or know of any houses they might want to mention the contest to the homeowner. Wards will win a plaque and the grand prize winner will receive a \$75 gift certificate to Agway. The deadline for the contest is December 7<sup>th</sup>. Judging will take place from December 10 through 14<sup>th</sup>.

Old Business –

Recreation Committee hats/sweatshirts – Joe Spagnola was not present with the design, discussion was postponed.

By-Laws – Carl stated that there will be new By-Laws to present to committee for acceptance/rejection and or additions by the next meeting.

New Business –

Carl appointed Dulce as temporary Vice President, Cindy Wilks seconded.

The Recreation Committee will possibly lose Pepi Dragotta and will lose John Daddario. Carl asked that if anyone had any suggestions for anyone to replace the members who are leaving to please submit their names to Melissa for presentation to the mayor. Brian suggested Kevin Schaffer for the Rec. Committee.

Girls' Softball – Will be under Little League as per National rules. League would be for girls ages 9-12 and under the Little League Charter. Carl asked Cindy Wilks if she would be willing to help him set up and organize the league so it will be ready to run when it is turned over to them. Cindy said she would be willing to help and that there should be quite a bit of interest. Cindy also said that we should get flyers out into the elementary schools, along with the boys' baseball flyers, as that helped with the girls' basketball numbers. She will also help with the distribution of the flyers at the schools. Carl stated that if they only had enough girls to form 1 or 2 teams he had received permission for inter-league play with other leagues. Carl also asked if the committee thought there would be enough interest from the girls, all were in agreement that there would be enough interest. The rec. committee would be responsible for putting the program together under their charter, and coming up with a strong person to be their leader.

Carl moved to adjourn – Cindy Wilks seconded

NEXT MEETING WILL BE JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00 PM  
HALL OF FAME

