

MAY 21, 2018, YOUTH AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Following All Comm. Meeting (about 7:30 p.m.) Council Chamber. Members present: J. Pearson, M. Platteter. Others present: A. Christianson 1 and 2, K. Gorseger, D. Parker.

Call to Order:

Chair Pearson called the meeting to order.

Ball Fields:

Asst. DPW Parker showed photos of storage buildings built or purchased and placed at Christman, Strop and former MSC fields. A mower (to pull ball field drag) donation that was anticipated, didn't materialize. Mr. Parker will check with mower repair shops to see if they have any usable riders for sale.

The school district would like to use the shed that has been at Christman Field to keep equipment it needs to use there and doesn't want to have to continually move back and forth. Motion was made by Pearson, seconded by Platteter and carried to recommend to the Council that it allow such use until further notice. This shed had been upgraded recently. There was mention of replacement parts of LES playground equipment.

Batting Cages:

A citizen request to have batting cages that are publicly available was discussed. Frank Herbes will be asked if he knows what cages cost. The school apparently has batting cages, but doesn't allow public use of them.

Skate Park:

Mention was made of a citizen request for signs cautioning drivers of the skate park ahead.

Posters:

There was discussion of the negative impression sex offender posters in the entries to places like city hall and places of business leave. It is believed to be a requirement that these be distributed, but not a requirement to place them front and center.

Parks and Rec:

Adm. Christianson talked about what a parks and rec position could entail, how it might be funded, and the importance of elevating awareness of recreational activities that are available or desired are to attracting and retaining people. Others present suggested that other possible tasks for such position could include the following:

- Operating equipment rentals such as canoes, paddle boats, fishing boats, inner tubes, skis, snow shoes and bikes. An alternative might be to refurbish a downtown building and offer it at low cost for a time to encourage a private entity to start a rental business.
- Doing data entry for CAD system.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at about 8:15 p.m.