

**City of Middletown**  
Parks & Recreation Department  
100 Riverview Center  
Suite 140  
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

**Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes of January 7, 2010**  
**Held at the Recreation Department Office at 100 Riverview Center**

Present: Commissioners Gerry Winzer, Thomas D’Aquila, Phil Pessina, Thomas Serra, Sheila Jones and Rick Romano. Director Raymond Santostefano, Superintendent’s John Milardo and Ray Jacobs representing the Parks & Recreation Department.

Absent: Commissioner Jaskot.

Call: Chairman Winzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, in the main room of the Recreation Office, at 100 Riverview Center, Suite 140.

Public Hearing: Dave Devito from the CT Eliminators requested Smith Park and Snow School fields on Mother’s and Father’s Day for two (2) separate weekend tournaments. The commissioners advised him to coordinate the details with Superintendent Milardo.

Michael Frechette, Superintendent of the Middletown Schools, spoke about joining together with the Recreation Department regarding their summer program by offering an academic summer program. The half day program would be for approximately three hundred twenty (320) children who are in grades two through five and would be held at Farm Hill, Wesley and Moody Schools. There would be no cost to the Recreation Department, unless the program was to run for the full day.

Barbara Senges, Associate Superintendent of Middletown Schools, spoke about sharing the bussing transportation for the academic program with the Recreation Department. She stated that she believed a better bussing rate could be obtained by the Board of Education.

Anissa Ladd, President of Middletown Little League, thanked the commissioners for working on the CT Mirage Softball Tournament and also spoke about the softball games that are currently in progress. Anissa also stated that she was opposed to giving up any dates for the CT Eliminators Tournaments. She requested permission to put lights up at Snow School and Smith Park from grants that could be obtained from fundraising. Another request was for the commissioners to have the lights remain on for a twenty-four (24) hour baseball and softball fundraiser game at Hubbard Park in late May of this year. It was stated that fees would be paid by Little League.

Discussion: There was a discussion regarding the Board of Education academic summer program. The fees, hours of operation and the number of participants in this program, verses the staff needed were also discussed.

Motion: Commissioner Pessina made a motion to have the lights at Hubbark Park remain on for a twenty-four (24) hour period, to allow for the Middletown Little League fundraiser game to be held. Commissioner D'Aquila seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Chairman Winzer requested a motion be made accepting the Parks and Recreation Commission minutes of December 3, 2009. Commissioner Pessina accepted. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Romano abstained.

Vote: The December 3, 2009 Parks & Recreation Commission minutes were unanimously approved.

Department Reports: Director Santostefano stated that the Parks Department has been attending to playground repairs, snow removal, preparing Veteran's Park for ice skating, as well as other miscellaneous maintenance.

Director Santostefano spoke about the Recreation Department's status regarding the inclusion programs, outreach programs and the other regular recreation programs.

Correspondence: Director Santostefano stated that the Activity/Checking Account had no activity.

Miscellaneous: None

Old Business: Director Santostefano discussed the Parks and Recreation Ordinance Review. He stated that there was an addition regarding when children can receive funding for their programs. The "Program Fee Waivers", page 214-40C will be rewritten and then submitted to Ordinance Study.

The CT Mirage has decided not to have a softball tournament in Middletown.

Motion: Commissioner Pessina made a motion to submit the paperwork to Ordinance Study for review. Commissioner D'Aquila seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business: Director Santostefano discussed the proposed Parks and Recreation Department reorganization. He stated that he went before the Personnel Review Committee and was advised to submit costs regarding incorporating the Senior Center, Arts and Culture Department and the Parks and Recreation Department into one department.

Discussion: Director Santostefano, the recreation staff and commissioners discussed in detail the Board of Education meeting on January 6, 2010, regarding the recreation programs.

Motion: Commissioner D'Aquila made a motion to have a cost analysis and no loss of summer program user fees to be presented to the commissioners by the next commission meeting in February. Commissioner Pessina seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion was unanimously approved.

Miscellaneous: None

Adjournment:

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Pessina. It was a unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Lori A. Marcati

cc Mayor Sebastian Giuliano