

**Minutes**  
**Alton Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**January 27, 2009**  
**A.V.A.S. Building, 6:30pm**

Members Present: Elizabeth Shelton (appointed by Chairman to sit in for P. Bolster), Cathy Burke, William Lionetta, Gerry Theodora, and Cydney Johnson.

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle

***Call To Order***

W. Lionetta called the Meeting to order at 6:30pm.

***Approval of Agenda***

G. Theodora made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion was seconded by C. Burke and passed.

***Approval of Minutes 10-23-08***

C. Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 23, 2008, motion was seconded by G. Theodora and passed.

***Public Input***

There was no public input.

***Old Business***

Flag Football- The Commission discussed sponsoring the Flag Football Program next season: end of August-October 2009 with a Flag Football Board in place to oversee the logistics (registration, supplies, coaches, etc.) of the program. Last year the Flag Football teams used the Alton Central School fields with games on Friday nights and practice two nights per week. Flag Football does run the same time as soccer and participants would need to be aware of potential conflicts with practice times. The program would be for grades 6-8 and other towns would be invited to play or the teams can play themselves. L. Shelton will have more information about the program at the next meeting.

Halloween Happenings- The PTSA and the Parks and Recreation Department co-sponsored the event at Alton Central School on Friday, October 31, 2008, from 4:00pm-5:00pm. The event was successful and we received positive feedback with the plan to repeat the program in 2009.

Youth Basketball Update- (1) Background Checks- The Director reported that the Background Checks the department was running through the State Police will now require a fingerprint card and the fee has increased from \$7.50 to \$25.25 per person, it may also take up to six weeks to process a request. The director suggested establishing a Background Check Policy to address procedures and questions; for example: How often is a check performed; Can a School Check be used for a Parks and Recreation coach/volunteer; What violations are acceptable if any and who reviews and approves the volunteer applicants; How are files kept to ensure confidentiality. The Commission will consider policy content/suggestions for the creation of a formal Background Check Policy. Currently the Department pays for the background check and waives the registration fee for the coaches' children. C. Johnson said the AYBL offers sibling discounts for their program and waives the registration fee

for one of the coaches' children. (2) Playing Time- The Director asked the Commission for feedback on establishing a policy for Equal Playing Time for Parks and Recreation Basketball players. The Commission discussed the pros and cons of a policy and noted that the Basketball Program is about developing skills and introducing kids to sports and teamwork. C. Johnson said the purpose of the program is to foster an environment where everyone is equal and it is the coach's job to develop the skills. Other members commented that kids will play up to the next level and that coaches can rotate the players in an organized manner (one group plays this period or game and the next group plays the next period or in the following weeks game; also coaches can position the better players to play last). No final decisions were made about the adoption of a policy.

Open Gym- The Prospect Mountain High School Gym is available for the Open-Gym program on March 13 and April 10 from 7:00pm-9:00pm. The Commission suggested adding a May time as well since we were not able to use the Feb. 6 date. The Commission discussed using the gym and dividing the gym into two sections: one with a netted court (Badminton and Volleyball) and one with an open court (Floor Hockey and Basketball). The Commission suggested the use of the school's equipment to facilitate some of the activities. K. Troendle will contact the school and ask if that would be an option for the program. L. Shelton and C. Burke offered to help with the program on March 13. The Commission suggested advertising on the School and Town website and inviting the National Honor Society members to participate. The program would be targeted for families and participants under 16 years of age would need adult supervision.

Winter Programs- The Director reported that the following programs are being offered: Cross-Country Skiing with P. Bolster every Sunday; monthly Snow Shoe Full Moon Walks; Red Cross Courses: Babysitting; Safe on My Own and Pet First Aid; Kid and Adult Yoga Classes. Winter Carnival is scheduled for Sunday, February 15 from 1:00pm-3:00pm on Lake Winnepesaukee. Parks and Recreation is sponsoring the D.J., Ice Bowling, Family Scavenger Hunt and the Great Alton Bay Bed Race with Meredith Village Savings Bank. Tennis Lessons for beginners and advanced players is scheduled to begin in the spring.

### ***New Business***

AYBL- C. Johnson reported that the AYBL will be submitting a sketched plan/proposal of improvements to Little Fenway/Jones Field to the Commission and then Board of Selectmen for approval. The proposal will include a concrete storage shed.

Touch a Truck- The Commission suggested the event be held on Saturday, June 27 in Alton Bay from 10:00am-12:00noon. The Department is planning to hand out something for the participants. Suggestions included: matchbox cars/trucks; magnets; growth chart.

Receipt of Gift- The Director reported that she was in receipt of a \$50.00 Restaurant Gift Card from Castleberry Fairs in December 2008. The Director said the gift card would be used as a prize at a Parks and Recreation event. A letter was sent to the Board of Selectmen to inform them.

Basketball Awards Night- The awards night is scheduled for March 3, 2009 at 6:30pm at ACS. Awards will be presented to participants with an ice cream social to follow. The department will pay the Alton Central School for staff to allow access to the kitchen.

***Other***

Security- The Commission discussed the benefits of adding security cameras to the office/lobby due to recent events of theft of Town property. G. Theodora reported that he has been researching recorders and cameras and has found reasonably priced models that would work in the facilities we would need monitored. The Commission suggested that G. Theodora report back at the next meeting with prices and unit functions/capabilities. W. Lionetta suggested the possibility of using on-line registration and Paypal as an additional way to accept registration fees for programs in an effort to reduce the stolen/lost envelopes dropped in the drop slot.

Trends/Advertising- The Commission discussed the upcoming trend of advertising/posting events on Face Book to promote/inform internet users of Parks and Recreation programs and activities.

***Adjournment***

C. Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm; motion was seconded by G. Theodora and passed. The next meeting will be Thursday, February 19 at 6:30pm at AVAS.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Kellie Troendle, Certified Park and Recreation Professional  
Parks and Recreation Director*