

Town of Montville
Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes for March 15, 2017
6:30 p.m. – Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers

1. Call to order
Chairman Hartman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
Present were Commissioners Rachel Belardo, Joseph Berardy, Matt Beaupre, Danielle Butzgy, Ryan Hartman, Dawn Penman, Karen Perkins, and Kristin Ventresca. Absent was Commissioner Jennifer Hajj. Also present were Town Council Liaison Laura Tanner, Parks & Recreation Director Peter Bushway, and Public Works Director Donald Bourdeau, Jr.
4. Adjustments to the Agenda – *none*
5. Remarks from the Public regarding items on the agenda with a three-minute limit – *none*
6. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Approve:
 - a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2017
Motion made by Commissioner Ventresca, seconded by Commissioner Belardo, to approve the minutes with the following amendments:
 - item 9, third paragraph:
Motion made by Commissioner Hajj, seconded by Commissioner Butzgy, to request the Town Council to cover the costs of the Judo mat through the Town's General Fund. Voice vote, ~~5-2~~ 4-2-1. Voting in Favor: Commissioners Butzgy, Hajj, Penman, ~~Perkins~~, and Ventresca. Voting in Opposition: Commissioners Berardy and Hartman. *Voting in Abstention: Commissioner Perkins.* Motion carried.
 - item 10(b), second paragraph, last sentence:
Currently, the Town is planning to remodel the bathrooms at an estimated cost of ~~\$300,000.00~~ \$190,000.00.
- Discussion: None. Voice vote, 8-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
7. Director's Report for March 2017
It was clarified that Montville Race Day, which was moved from July 16 to September 10, would be held on the first Sunday following Labor Day from this year forward, should it prove successful. In addition, it was noted that, because SNERRO (Southern New England Road Race Officials) is not available this year to handle the timers, they will be negotiating with the three other officiating services in the area.

It was confirmed that the movie screen was easily and successfully set up and all of the parts were delivered.

Discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of fireworks at the Carnival. Rockwell Amusements informed Director Bushway that, in their experience, a fireworks show tends to invite more people to a Carnival. The current agreement stipulates that the costs would be divided between Rockwell Amusements (80%) and the Town (20%). In response to Commissioner Ventresca, who questioned the proposed locations from which the fireworks would originate, Director Bushway stated that the agreement depends upon whether the High School provides permission to utilize their baseball field for the fireworks. Should they agree, Director Bushway would present the proposal to the Commission for final approval.

Director Bushway will investigate the reasoning behind why a number of the Commissioners are not receiving the newsletter. The newsletter will be included in the Schools' Digital Backpack going forward.

8. P&R Newsletter for April 2017

The times for the Mother's Day Craft event will be corrected so they coincide in both the event announcement and upcoming events section .

9. Report from Finance

Motion made by Commissioner Berardy, seconded by Commissioner Beaupre, to transfer \$290.00 from line item 10730-51074 – PT Camp Oakdale to line item 10730-53114 – Basketball Referees. Discussion: The transfer will zero out the latter line item. Voice vote, 8-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Berardy, seconded by Commissioner Beaupre, to transfer \$63.52 from line item 10730-51074 – PT Camp Oakdale to line item 10730-51100 – Overtime. Discussion: The transfer will zero out the latter line item. Voice vote, 8-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Unfinished Business

a. P&R Budget

Director Bushway reported that the budget has been submitted and, to his knowledge, neither the Mayor nor the Finance Committee has reviewed the budget to date. The Finance Department recommended the Commission request the Town Council to approve the increase in summer camp fees. The Commission is opposed to the price increase of \$10.00 to offset the minimum wage increase for its staff. Summer camp is tentatively scheduled to begin on Monday, June 26, 2017.

b. Community Center Building Committee Update

Public Works Director Bourdeau attended a recent Committee meeting and clarified the cost, process, and plans for the remodeling of the bathrooms. In an effort to increase the Survey response, Commissioner Butzgy has contacted *The Day* newspaper, which has agreed to include a small blurb in this and next week's *Montville Times*. In addition, Town Council Chairman Joseph Jaskiewicz will investigate the possibility of providing funds to

cover the postage for a mailing. Upon Commissioner Beaupre's suggestion, Commissioner Ventresca will request the schools to distribute the survey. Director Bushway suggested the possibility for the Commission to fund the costs for an insert in the *Montville Times*. Once the responses are received, the information will be compiled and analyzed by the Committee and presented to the Town Council and the available grants will be researched.

In response to Commissioner Perkins, Director Bushway stated that he was not aware of a meeting taking place regarding the possible use of one of the rooms by the school through Youth Services. He will confirm that Youth Services is not scheduling rooms at the Community Center. The meeting calendar is available in the Parks & Recreation office and is posted in the Community Center.

The Youth Center is interested in purchasing a new sign to replace the current Fair Oaks sign. Discussion ensued regarding whether the sign has already been de-installed.

c. Camp Oakdale

Two benches on slabs will be placed along with the picnic tables at Camp Oakdale and additional tables and garbage cans will be purchased. Public Works Director Bourdeau reported that conduits are currently being installed along the edges of the fields to provide water to the soccer fields.

d. Dog Park Committee Update – *no update*

e. 2017 Summer Concerts

The contract from *Kick* has been received and they are expecting to receive the contract from *Malaena* in the near future. Food vendors will be contacted and scheduled.

f. 2017 Carnival

Director Bushway received the contract from Rockwell Amusements and they are waiting to receive the information for the fireworks. The Fire Police, Public Works, Montville Police Lt. Leonard Bunnell, Fire Marshal, and the Sub Base have been made aware of the Carnival. The Town Council will also need to waive the fees for the Fire Police, Public Works, etc. Discussion ensued as to the need of scheduling a Special Meeting to discuss the planning for the Carnival. Packaging options that include more or different rides for the older children has been requested. Discussion ensued regarding the location of the Carnival at Fair Oaks vs. Camp Oakdale, including parking and transportation issues and field maintenance. They will consult with Rockwell Amusements to schedule a survey to ensure that having the Carnival on Fields One & Two at Camp Oakdale is a possibility. Outside vendors, who do not sell the same items as the Carnival, will be allowed.

Commissioner Berardy introduced the possibility of considering the drive-by customers, stating that more individuals pass by the Montville Community Center in comparison to Camp Oakdale. It was felt that the message regarding the Carnival and its location would be widely advertised and that, eventually, over time, the public will be aware of the event and its location.

Director Bushway will inform the Commissioners when the meeting is scheduled with the Company to survey Camp Oakdale so that any interested members can attend the meeting. He will also provide regular updates on the progress and the possibility of scheduling a Special Meeting to discuss the Carnival will be determined.

g. Future Events & Programs

1) Farmers Market (Commissioner Hajj)

Director Bushway has met with Tara Crossley to discuss the possibility of hosting a Farmers Market at the Community Center on Sundays. A list of possible farmers in the area will be contacted to investigate the feasibility of hosting such an event. The location for the event was briefly discussed.

h. Dog Park Liaison

Councilor Tanner stated that a liaison is required. It was noted that the Dog Park Committee, which is a Sub-Committee under the Commission, should not be communicating directly with the Town Council. Commissioner Beaupre volunteered to be the Dog Park Liaison.

11. New Business – *none*

12. Communications

- a. E-mail from Shannon Jones, The Butzgy Agency, regarding a donation of crayons and coloring materials to be available for children during the Easter Egg Hunt. She will be supplying all of the necessary materials. (*attached*)

It was requested that the communications from the last meeting be attached to the minutes.

13. Remarks from the Public – *none*

14. Remarks from Town Council Liaison Laura Tanner

Councilor Tanner suggested adding Remarks from the Director on future agendas.

15. Remarks from the Commissioners

Chairman Hartman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

16. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Belardo, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Voice vote, 8-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by: Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING IS ON FILE IN THE MONTVILLE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.

From: "Shannon Jones" <shannon.kbutzgy@farmersagency.com>
Date: March 15, 2017 at 3:29:45 PM EDT
To: <Ryhman@gmail.com>
Subject: Tonights meeting

Good afternoon Ryan, my name is Shannon and I work for The Butzgy Agency with Farmers Insurance. I had intended to make the meeting tonight but unfortunately I double booked myself. We at the Butzgy Agency would like to donate crayons and coloring material for the kids to color during the Easter egg hunt on April 8th. If this could be brought up at tonight's meeting that would be fantastic. My children love this event and look forward to it every year. Thank you for your time.

Shannon Jones
Account Manager
The Butzgy Agency
[51 Norwich Rd](mailto:shannon.kbutzgy@farmersagency.com)
[Quaker Hill, CT 06375](mailto:shannon.kbutzgy@farmersagency.com)
860-574-9420 (Office)
860-319-6925 (Cell)
860-574-9218 (Fax)
shannon.kbutzgy@farmersagency.com
<http://www.farmersagent.com/kbutzgy>



February 6, 2017

Dear Mr. Bushway,

Thank you for speaking with me on the phone today regarding the Grade 3-4 basketball game on Friday, February 3, 2017, at 7:00 PM. I called to clarify the reasons why points were deducted from my son's team near the end of this game. As we discussed, my daughter, who volunteered to keep the scoreboard and game clock, felt very uncomfortable with you asking her to "stop keeping score for the blue team." She was even more uncomfortable with you deducting the points from the team when she did not follow your request. Asking her to be dishonest upset her greatly.

When we spoke on the phone you told me that "it is not uncommon to adjust scores" in these recreational basketball games, referring to the Parks and Recreation policy on keeping scores close at this level of play. Along with this letter, I also attached to this email the "Parent Info Sheet" and "Rules Handout" document that you provided to parents at the beginning of the season. There is no policy outlined about deducting points from teams in either of these documents.

I agree that at this age the players should focus more on skills and practice than on the score of the game. But I also believe that the players are learning to play fairly, to the best of their ability, and with good sportsmanship. Arbitrarily removing points from a team near the end of the game with no explanation to the players, parents, or scorekeeper does not reflect these important skills of fairness.

My daughter and I would greatly appreciate if you would send an email to the parents and coaches of all of the players in the recreational league clearly outlining your scoring policy. I realize this is a busy time of year for you, but feel this is an appropriate way of handling this situation so it does not cause any more upsetting issues in the future.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Beth Richmond

February 4, 2017

Montville Parks and Recreation,

I was a scorekeeper for the Boy's Youth Basketball Teams on February 3, 2017 for the Blue and Gold teams. During this match, the blue team was doing significantly better than the gold team. As I continued to keep score, the referee came over to me and told me to stop keeping score for the blue team. Taking this as a kind of joke, I thought nothing of it and continued my job. However, for the next few baskets the blue team made, the ref would continue to come over and tell me to stop keeping score for this team. The ref then proceeded to, after the fourth time he came over in the middle of game play, deduct five points from the blue team. Not only was he not doing his job correctly, but he was also preventing me from doing my job to the most efficient.

I am absolutely appalled at this kind of behavior from a person that is specifically hired to keep all players in accordance with the rules. The referee and the scorekeeper are supposed to be neutral aspects in the sport of basketball solely used to keep the game fair. By showing favor to one team or another, this can cheat the members of the other team of having a well-rounded competition. By intruding upon my job and distracting me with petty nonsense that gave the losing team an unfair advantage and cheating the other team out of five points, the referee consequently undermined his own job of keeping the rules in check. Quite honestly, it downright shocked me to see a grown man come over and demand me to not do my job, just so the other team could catch up.

Yes, this action was probably done so that the other team would feel like they hadn't been beaten too badly and, thus, boost their self-confidence, however, this was not executed in the best way. It was not my fault that one team was doing better than another. This fact alone brings to light the irrational state of this situation. By coming up and changing the score, the referee demonstrated to these players that what matters in a game is the points and who wins, rather than good sportsmanship and teamwork. Because of this, I had players from both teams come up to me after the game and ask why the score was what it was instead of what it was supposed to be. Embarrassed, I had to tell them that it was not my fault and quickly walk away, before I was interrogated further by them. The score was more important to this referee than how the teams played and this deeply upsets me.

Thank you for your time,

Holly Richmond

February 4, 2017

Ryan Hartman
Chair
Parks and Recreation Commission

I am writing about an incident that occurred on January 25th at a boys grade 7-9 basketball game. My son AJ was injured durring a tie-up held ball call where his arm was hyper-extended. He did require medical attention, so my concern is for the safety of the basketball players.

My question is this. What avenue does the Montville Parks and Recreation department have to inform all the referees? I spoke with Peter Bushway and he agrees that held ball situations with this age group of boys can be dangerous due to the aggressive play of the boys. I only ask that the referees are quick to blow the whistle on a held ball and avoid any injuries to the players in the future. Is there a way to submit a memo to league or group that oversees the referees of Montville games?

Peter said that he did not oversee the group of referees. I would like to find out who is the point of contact so we can bring up the issue. I can be reached at 860 367 9008 or hintzfamily5@gmail.com. Please contact me or my wife Vicki to discuss this further. I look forward to your response.

Thank you,



Michael Hintz

cc. Peter Bushway