

The February 18<sup>th</sup> 2009 meeting of the Portsmouth Recreation Board was held at the Greenleaf Recreation Center. The meeting was call to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Members In Attendance:** Chairman Carl Diemer, Vice Chairman Paul Houlares, Jackie Pitts, Elaine Syracuse, Pat McCartney, Kathy Siegel, City Staff: Recreation Director Rus Wilson, Assistant Director Barry Foley, Parking Manager Jon Frederick

**Members Excused:** Kent LaPage, Harry Clark, Laura Pantelakos

**Actions/Discussions:**

- Jon Frederick, Parking Manager, presented a proposal to allow overnight parking at the Peirce Island boat launch for those who wish to launch a boat and plan to be gone overnight or for a series of nights. The Board had numerous suggestions, including a higher fee than the proposed \$5 per night, options to not allow non-residents to park overnight or charge non-residents double the fee, limit the number of days one can leave their vehicle, have a separate location for overnight vehicles, etc. Mr. Frederick will take all the suggestions back to his committee and forward a final report to the Recreation Board.
- The Recreation Director updated the Board on the progress of the Recreation Needs Assessment. The selection committee has narrowed the field of applicants to do the study and will interview in the coming weeks. The status of the indoor pool and Connie Bean Center will, more than likely, stay status quo until the needs assessment is complete and the recommendations are brought forward. The Board discussed

the option of the recreation youth activities being moved to the Middle School. It was decided to wait and see what options the study produced and discuss them at the proper time. Along those lines, a discussion took place on the School Board's request to have the school and city explore the idea of the Recreation Department absorbing the Middle School and elementary athletic programs, much as they do at the high school. The Recreation Director said that while there have been preliminary discussions, nothing has been finalized and it may have to wait to see the results of the Recreation Needs Assessment to determine if staff is available to take on such a project.

- The Board looked at a request from the Portsmouth Little League to place a beverage machine at Central Field. The board recommended the city approve the request with the following stipulations: The machine will be in place mid April through October, the machine will be "boxed in" with a wooden structure with a matching color of the other structures at the site, the machine will not be illuminated at any time, the machine be secured to prevent vandalism/theft, the machine offer only water.
- The Board got an update on the new hot tub area at Spinnaker Point Recreation Center. The city did the project and the work is beautiful.
- The Board had a long discussion on the merits of the proposed Recreation/Open Space Board. There were numerous suggestions, questions, concerns about the role of the proposed Board and the current Recreation Board/sub committee, the need for such a Board, etc. There were several ideas/suggestions proposed and the Chairman will present those to the City Manager to take to the Mayor and/or City Council.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.