

CASCO PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 17, 2014
Meeting 4 to 5 PM
Casco Community Center

Members:

Olivia Francis, Robert Francis, Lucille Griffin, Carol Hancock,
Jan McGrath, Patricia Troy, Bev White
Beth Latsey, Recreation Director

AGENDA

Call to order at 4 PM

Minutes of last meeting May 14, 2014

Selection of chair & secretary for 2014-15

Old Business

Discussion of meeting schedule

Review of Summer activities by recreation director

Other

New Business

Committees/Liaisons

Fall & Winter schedule

Report on the Memorial School Committee (Bob Francis and Bev White)

Comments & Suggestions from members

Other

Next scheduled meeting May 2015

Adjournment at 5 PM

MEETING

Members present: Jan McGrath, Patricia Troy, Bev White, Beth Latsey, Recreation Director

Members absent: Olivia Francis, Robert Francis, Lucille Griffin, Carol Hancock

Meeting called to order at 4:07 PM by Troy, chair.

Minutes of May 14, 2013 meeting reviewed and accepted.

Because of lack of quorum, selection of chair and secretary for 2014-15 was tabled. Troy will continue until next meeting.

Old Business:

Meeting Schedule: Members present discussed the schedule of two meetings per year, May and June. It seems to provide appropriate time for committee to review and discuss activities. This schedule will continue until May 2015 when there will be further review and discussion.

Summer Activities:

Latsey reported that the May Town Volunteer Celebration was very nice and enjoyed by all who attended. Unfortunately, it was not well attended. Food was catered. Troy mentioned the original Volunteer appreciation gatherings that Alan Renfrew organized some years ago. They were evening pot-luck and well attended.

A Summer reading program was developed with donated books. Kids who took part in the_

lunch program were also able to choose books to read at lunch time and to take the books home. The lunches were prepared by St. Joseph's College and were better than last year. Volunteers for these summer programs included Carol Poole, Ronnie Tilles, Val Bennet, Sue Durkee, Rosemary Snow. The Mad Science program had its Best Instructor ever, Kathy McPherson. The Swimming Program was very successful with close to 100 children taking part. Adult lessons were also offered. The Junior Water Rescue program had 20 students. Golf lessons were given at Point Sebago. Paul True was Tennis instructor and athletic director. Basketball camp was well attended.

Adult Community Center activities included the Mens' League, adult exercises led by Pauline Webb, and Zumba. The Farmers' Market was held on the Village Green every Thursday from 10 am to 2 PM. It closed early September.

The work done on Crescent Lake and Pleasant Lake beaches last fall and early this spring held up well. Beach signs were put in place.

Pie in the Park was fairly successful taking in \$550, but the band cost \$200. It was not as well attended as in years 1 and 2, possibly because of the date, which was so close to Labor Day. It seemed to be an older group attending and they did enjoy.

Landscaping – More pea stone has been added in the plantings by the Post Office. The Village trees have been mulched, as has the play ground behind the library. One Hawthorne in front of Latsey's office area had to be replaced. The swings and a picnic table in Libby Park have been replaced.

Other: BIKE MAINE contacted Latsey earlier this year about Casco hosting the bikers' lunch on the first day of their 2014 ride, Sunday, September 7th. Bike Maine provided the menu, much of the set-up and money to pay expenses. St. Joseph's College Cafe prepared the food. Recreation Committee members assisted. Approximately 350 bikers were accommodated. Feedback from Bike Maine organizers and the bikers has been excellent.

New Business:

Veterans' Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, November 11th. Pam Grant will assist with arrangements. Grant is a regular Thursday volunteer at the Community Center and is also a member of the Veterans' Committee. Money for the breakfast comes from Pie in the Park.

Soccer – 130 kids have signed up for soccer. Field hockey for the District has begun with 15 to 20 girls in grades 3 through 5 taking part.

Hallowe'en activities are being planned with some difficulties. High School students usually help in Casco, but this year there is a program at the high school. Latsey is working on solutions. There will be a Haunted House in the Library and activities in the Community Center area.

The Village Tree lighting will be held on Saturday, December 6th.

Report from Memorial School Committee - **Committee is made up of Bev White and Bob Francis representing Parks Advisory Committee, with Paula Grace, Matt Hancock, Allison Depree and Rosemary Snow representing Recreation Committee.** Latsey reported that the committee has met twice; first an organizational meeting and then at the Memorial School area with a Sebago Techniques engineer, who is overseeing the survey and soils test of the area. Ariel views of other parks will be studied for ideas. Latsey is preparing letter applications for grants.

It is the committee's intention that the area will include a universal soccer, lacrosse and hockey field, a walking trail, a concession stand, a small playground for younger children, and a picnic area.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM as Latsey had another meeting to attend in the building.

Respectfully submitted:
Pat Troy, acting secretary