MIDDLETOWN RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

The Middletown Recreation Commission held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Wayne Hawkins, Vice-Chairman Dave Bechtle, Rollin Lybolt, Shawna Strenfel, Daniel Higbie, Alderman Witt and Supt. Chris Brinckerhoff.
Absent: Michael Torres, TroiChanel Johnson.

GUESTS: Roseanne Darrell, Darrin Cross, Manuel Diaz, Ronalynn Davis-Benware and Hazel Rodriguez representing the Middletown Little League, attended the meeting to discuss some concerns with the Commission. They expressed the desire to keep open communications with the department. They discussed putting a second floor on the Little League Shack in Watts Park to use as a meeting room and office space. They want to put play apparatus in the park near the shack. They also would like to put sponsor signage on the fences around the fields. They would like to get wi-fi and the internet in the park. They suggested that they get a link on the City website to announce their registrations and special events. The commission suggested that they rethink putting a second floor on the shack and use the storage space already there. Play apparatus is not advisable due to safety issues. Signage cannot be permanently put on the fences but a banner that can be put up and taken down is doable.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the October 19, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved on a MOTION by Rollin Lybolt, seconded by Dave Bechtle.

AUDIT: The October revenues totaled $9,058.00. Grant monies received totaled $47,632.18. This brings the year-to-date revenues to $269,950.09. We have now received all the money social services owed us for sports camp enrollees. Revenues for the winter programs are starting to come in. Friends of Middletown Parks brought in $199.00 to be earmarked for playground equipment. We are $8,049.91 away from our year-end-goal.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: **Personnel** – We are down to full time employees and seasonal employees working in pre-school and the teen center. We still have two part-time laborers on to help with the extra events coming up. We will be hiring for the winter programs soon.

Activities – Parent's Night Out was held on October 28 and was very successful. Toddlers-in-Training will be held in January for five weeks at Presidential Park Elementary from 6 to 7 pm. Adult open play volleyball will be held at Presidential Park Elementary starting in January for three months. Youth Turkey Trot will be held on November 19. Competition Basketball held team tryouts on October 29 at the Community Center and there are four teams this year.Games will be held at the Newburgh Armory. Gingerbread House Making will be held in December. The Santa mailboxes will be put out soon to collect the Letters to the North Pole. All aboard the Polar Express will be held on December 19 at 5:30 pm at the Paramount.

Maintenance – The men are busy with leaf removal. They are checking playgrounds for broken equipment and dangerous things. Pools and outside bathrooms are being winterized. The tank at Maple Hill pool has been dug out and a new pool filter will be put in this fall.

RECREATION & PARKS COMMITTEE: Nothing.

OLD BUSINESS: Skate Park is still in the works. Spohn Ranch has won the bid. The design part will be tackled first. We will work in conjunction with Community Development on this endeavor. On November 30th, a design meeting will be held with Spohn Ranch at 6 pm. There will be a walk-through of the site at 4 pm on November 30.

Friends of Middletown Parks will be doing a letter campaign to get funds for play apparatus in their neighborhood parks.

NEW BUSINESS: Expansion of the Concession Stand at Watts Park was discussed with the Middletown Little League board earlier. It might be more cost effective to put a shed up to hold the equipment that is in the side room. Then the room could be set up as the office/meeting room that the Little League needs.

E-mail collection has been taking place at the schools so we can get our information out to the public via e-mail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Shawna Strenfel gave kudos to the Parents Night Out program on October 28. The kids had a great time.

ADJOURNMENT: The November meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. on a MOTION by Dan Higbie, seconded by Shawna Strenfel.

NEXT MEETING: The December meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 a half hour earlier at 7:00 p.m. in the Recreation & Parks Department office.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Sherman