

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Beck at 6:40 pm on August 12, 2008 at our recreation building located in Ventnor Heights at Surrey & Balfour Avenues in accordance with the sunshine law.

Present: Bart Beck, John Gallagher, Lori Nolan, Debbie Beirne, Kathy McFadden, Director Thomas and Commissioner Weintrob and A.J. Russo arrive at 7:25 pm.

First guest was Mark Hills who came to speak to the board about the Cub Scouts Pak from Ventnor having its first annual camp out at the beach. It will be Saturday, October 11 and go until early Sunday 10/12/08 morning. It will be on Newport and Newhaven Avenues on the park, beach area. There will be no cooking, no camp fires just kids will post tents in the sand and tell scary stories. Each cub scouts must have an adult person with them- no child will be allowed to be there without an adult leader or family member with them throughout the entire night. It will be a Halloween theme- if it rains the event will be cancelled completely. - They will invite the Margate city cub scouts to join them. They want to make this a very high profile thing since it is the first one for Ventnor and everyone is very excited about it.

****They request that the public outside bathrooms be left open for their event***** Director Thomas will talk to the public works department about this—as long as Mr. Hill supervises the bathrooms this should not be a problem.

Insurance and fees will be paid Mr. Hills just wanted to make sure that the event would be approved before a check is cut. The cub scouts have had events before and the board was very happy with their event- they see no reason why this application should not be approved as long as all checks and insurances are provided before the event. Mr. Hills is aware and will get everything to us asap. A motion was made to approve their request as long as all the proper documentation and monies are sent in prior to the date by Lori Nolan and Seconded by Kathy McFadden. All in favor/ 0 opposed.

Second special events application was for Beth El Synagogue that wanted a service on the beach on Newport Ave and the Gazebo. They will need electric for music it will be on August 16, 2008 for one night, checks and insurances are included. They have had several events just like this one prior to basically they are requesting the exact same thing as previously this year and last year. A motion was made to approve application by Bart Beck and seconded by Debbie Beirne. All in favor/ 0 opposed.

Chairman Beck wanted to info the board that little league finished 2 weeks ago-- Kudos to Lori Nolan for running the refreshment stand. – Trophies for all stars were given out and another successful season is over.

Director's Report:

Director Thomas wanted to congratulate the recreation board for being so dedicated about thinking ahead when it comes to competitive pricing. Several years ago the board evaluated the pricing of the camps and wanted to stay competitive with other cities to raise the prices of the camps but not lose kids. They achieved that goal, the board

recommends making it attractive to send your child for more days, for a little bit more then it would be to send them less days at only a small savings to the parents. It seemed to have worked; the camps had kids 5 days a week vs. 3 days a week. It looks like when the Director did the figures for the camps for the summer of 2008 roughly made a profit of \$8500.00

The Tuesday night volleyball league and summer league- Mike Feely- was a hard year, the city added lights to the courts which made it nice- Kudos to Billy Noland the the Public works department for always being there to help. Looks like due to the volleyball league, the City made a profit of \$4,000.00. Director Thomas made a suggestion to keep all the volleyball together for next year, keep all at Somerset beach area.

Discussion question? The director received a request from the VECC to use our practice field for soccer and field hockey. Director said that they would supply to paint for stripping and also the nets. The boards concern was the security of the nets because they cannot be moved easily.

Director Thomas stated that he would send some kind of correspondence to the police department explaining the VECC requests and will see what kind of monitoring can be done above what is already in place.

Commissioner Weintrob suggested to Director Thomas to get a “formal” proposal, see what they are asking for and then go from there.

Every year the director has a suggestion with the board in reference to the practice fields. It seems that certain organizations that use our fields don't want to practice on the “practice” fields all the time and they end up going on to other fields then causing damage to those fields causing unnecessary money to be spent to repair those fields. Boards members suggest bring those coaches from those organizations in and tell them the rules.

7:25 p.m. Board member AJ Russo arrives.

Board Chairman Beck states that the director make a list where the practices are to take place and that's it period

A.J. Russo states that the practice field is sometimes dangerous—the mesh from years ago when it was laid is now coming up through the grass catching the players cleats, it is dangerous and needs to be addressed. Board member Russo stated that the pirates will do whatever the recreation board suggests in regards to the fields, but they have to look at the fields for safety.

Also a concern was brought up about the Viking Rowing Club. All the boats behind the fence look horrible--- cars parking in the lot all over the place. On the walkways everywhere the grass and it makes the area look awful and unkept .

Commissioner Weintrob stated that the city is considering a landscaping position. Moving an already working employee of the city into that position or possibly hiring someone with a landscaping background. Something they are considering

Commissioner Weintrob also stated that the situation in regards to football (in particular) bothers them (City Fathers). If organizations DO NOT follow the rules, then they will not be allowed to use our facilities', period. Also been looking at different events that go on throughout the city. "The Users will pay" for their events, not the taxpayers.

8: 05 pm the recreation board went off the record for personnel issues.

8:45 back on the record---

Commissioner Weintrob stated we all have to get out there and sell the city.

Kathy McFadden stated that the small local papers will draw people to relocate families to this area—keep them informed. Need more PR from the various committees that have formed. The Ventnor City Voice has just come into the mayor's office to be distributed.

And a comment in regards to a statement made earlier in the evening, Commissioner Weintrob wanted to again mention that no one will be allowed to damage any Ventnor property, as discussed earlier in regards to damaging our football fields or any other "city" property without being held responsible.

Commissioner wanted to thank all board members for their dedication to the city and the recreation programs in Ventnor.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bart Beck and seconded by John Gallagher