

**The City of Wickliffe**  
**Parks and Recreation Committee**  
Meeting Minutes  
January 8th, 2009

A regular meeting of the Wickliffe Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Beal on Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7:36P.M. in the Victorian Room of Wickliffe City Hall.

**Members Present**

- ★ Joanne Beal
- ★ Nicole Lorenzo
- ★ Anthony Vitale
- ★ Kim Hildack
- ★ Julie Ganim
- ★ Carole Zalokar
- ★ Sue Mancino
- ★ Matt Jaworski
- ★ Sr. Citizen Coordinator Joe Surtz
- ★ Sr. Citizen Coordinator Barbara Kirsch

**Also Present**

- ★ Recreation Director Timothy Stopp
- ★ Council President Bill Margalis
- ★ Service Garage Superintendent Joe D'Ambrosio

**Members Absent**

- ★ Bridget Burkett
- ★ Dan Ivancic

**Members Excused**

- ★ none

**Approval of Minutes**

<b>Motion:</b>	Motion by Vitale, seconded by Ganim, that the minutes from the November 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2008 meeting be approved with the following corrections: Add member Carole Zalokar as being present
<b>Roll Call:</b>	Ayes: All Nays: None
<b>Result:</b>	Motion carried. <b>Minutes approved.</b>

**Approval of Agenda**

<b>Motion:</b>	Motion by Ganim, seconded by Vitale, that the agenda for the January 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 meeting be approved as presented.
<b>Roll Call:</b>	Ayes: All Nays: None
<b>Result:</b>	Motion carried. <b>Agenda approved.</b>

## **Introduction of Guests**

None

Joe Surtz will be stepping down as Senior Citizen Coordinator and Barbara Kirsch will be his replacement. Barbara attended with Joe to introduce herself and become familiar with the group. Joe D'Ambrosio has been named Service Garage Superintendent. He was in attendance also.

## **Audience Participation**

None

## **Communications**

Winterfest Flyer  
New Roster

## **Reports**

### **Joe D'Ambrosio, Service Garage Superintendent**

Leaf clean up will continue in the spring.

Swings have been removed from the parks. Some will need repair and some will need to be replaced.

There is not much going on in the parks right now - this is a quiet time regarding the parks.

Sue inquired regarding the inspection that Lorenzo did with regards to the playground equipment at Coulby. She wondered if anything was ordered as a result of the assessment. It was clarified that it was an assessment/inspection of the current equipment. The equipment was originally rated age appropriate for ages 5 through 12, but it is okay for use by younger children (age 3 and up) also.

### **Timothy Stopp, Recreation Director**

Mr. Stopp reported that there was a nice turnout for the Children's Christmas Party (held in December). Mr. and Mrs. Grubiss do a great job as Santa and Mrs. Claus. The children also enjoyed Sparkles and Swifty (clowns) and Jungle Terry and his animals.

The Saturday morning basketball has begun at the high school and is a success. There was a waiting list of 16 children. To accommodate them, the teams were "overpopulated". There are 96 participants in third through sixth grades.

LOAS has moved to the Community Center over the Christmas break. A meeting was held with the board of the Senior Center to discuss the changes. Most received the kids with open arms. The kids are in the north end of the building on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-5 PM. There is no interference with the seniors, the doors are closed to buffer. There are intentions to encourage intergenerational activities. Some suggestions were tutoring, ping pong, pool, Wii, and bocce (in the spring). The park will also be an option for activities here.

With regards to the Community Center, more activities are being planned for the evenings. Tai Chi Ch'uan has moved to the Center on Monday evenings. Low impact aerobics will begin soon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Other suggested activities include Zumba, ballroom dancing, and yoga. It was suggested to plan activities for residents earlier in the day.

Winterfest will be Saturday, January 17th. Volunteers are needed (both indoor and outdoor). ID's will not be checked, but raffles are for Wickliffe residents only. Many groups are participating (see flyer). It was noted that there will be a shuttle to transport people between Green Ridge and City Hall. It was suggested that people carpool, as parking is limited at Green Ridge. Flyers will be distributed to the Elementary School and OLMC to advertise.

### **Joe Surtz and Barb Kirsch, Senior Citizen Coordinator**

There are more than 600 paid members and the numbers are still going up.  
The Lunch Bunch will be going to Eat 'n Park on the 27th.  
Watercolor classes (\$30 for 12 sessions) are going well.  
There will be a Soup, Toast and Jelly meal served for Valentine's Day (on the 12th of February) for \$2 - limit of 75.  
A trip to Allegheny is planned for the 17th. Cost is \$29 - trip goes get \$15 back.  
The foot doctor comes twice a month to the Center.  
Maryann Boos has started a book club; there are 6-8 participants.  
There are 6 regular Wii participants, plus many "walk-ins". Bowling is popular, and there may be a league formed.  
The workout rooms are very popular! There are always people waiting for a machine. It has been suggested to switch the equipment in the pool room with the workout equipment. (It seems that the pool room is larger and there would be more room for more equipment.) It was noted that this was not intended to be a Recreation Center.  
The computers are becoming more popular.  
A discussion was held regarding seniors. It was noted that any seniors from anywhere can attend our center if they pay the registration fee. This is true of all senior centers. Some (like Mentor) do not have a membership fee.

### **Matthew Jaworski, Representative from Council**

The administration will be working on the budget soon. Things are quiet right now.  
Mancino questioned whether the new Service Department would be built. Mr. Jaworski noted that this would be discussed with regards to the budget.

### **Anthony Vitale, Representative from School Board**

Mr. Vitale reported that the schools are getting ready to test.  
The football coach is retiring.  
The new assistant wrestling coach may contact Mr. Stopp regarding a wrestling club. He put together the program in Mentor. He has 40 years coaching experience.  
The program with the Metroparks was questioned. Mr. Vitale noted that it remains at a stand still; there was a change in administration (Executive Director retired). There was an issue with access to the property through school property. The school will not allow the public to access this site through school property. As far as the school board was concerned, the ball is in their court and it will be signed when presented.

## **Old Business**

### **Use of Parks**

Beal questioned whether there were any additional surveys returned. Mr. Stopp reported that there were approximately 30-35 total. He noted that approximately 40% want to keep Jindra pool open, and have it remain open longer (during the season). Approximately 30% noted that the tennis courts at Jindra are a high priority.

Hildack questioned the master plan for Jindra. It was noted that it is more of a "vision". There have been a few different "master plans". There are many things on the "wish list", and things will likely be added in bits and pieces. There are priorities, like the tennis courts. Previous priorities at Jindra have been parking and ball fields.

### **Skate Area**

It was noted that this is still an open item. Hildack reported that the skate park located within Rec Park in Painesville is "isolated" but not usually vandalized. It was suggested that a central location along Euclid Avenue (the Ponderosa property) be purchased by the city for recreational use. Council President Margalis responded that this would not be the best use of the property, as it is a business area and will generate tax dollars if used for business. Mr. Rotundo has not had any further suggestions, and the boys who came after last year's Park Tour have not returned with any suggestions. There were a few suggestions in last month's minutes regarding locations. The location that continues to return is the Fire Station.

### **New Programs for Community Center**

Beal questioned whether we pay the instructors who teach community classes. Mr. Stopp responded that there is a percentage split with each instructor (the instructor gets a percentage of the total fee and the city gets the other portion). United Way monies are used to pay the instructors at the Senior Center.

Zalokar suggested computer classes for residents. It was noted that the Council on Aging does this type of program and that there is a private business in our community that also does this. She suggested that she may be able to acquire donated computers (through Case) if the Center would be able to use them. Ganim noted that Progressive also may be willing to donate computers. Hildack inquired if the LOAS activities are all structured/organized. Mr. Stopp noted that it is "quasi-organized"; there are organized group activities for portions of the time, children are encouraged to participate, but are not required. There is time to "hang out". Beal inquired about the cost. It was reported that the fee is \$20 for 15 weeks. It was noted by many that this is really cheap babysitting/latchkey!!! (Great value!)

### **Other**

None

## **New Business**

### **Community Center Open House/Recreation Fair**

The idea is to keep the Community Center growing - to continue to add to it. If we are considering "outside" sources (ie Lake Metroparks), we need to contact them ASAP. Ganim did some research and suggested that, in addition to the Open House/ Recreation Fair, we add a "healthy community" component, such as a city-wide health and fitness fair which could include activities such as a weight loss contest, a city wide marathon, or tri-athlon (for example).

This would not be in competition with any Recreation activities, rather would tie in with Recreation programs. At the Fair, we could advertise the upcoming activities, as well as focus on other "healthy" options offered by the Recreation Department (such as short demos of Tai Chi, yoga, etc.). It would be ideal to have things outside in addition to in the building. August and May were suggested as target dates. Mr. Margalis agreed that this was a great idea. He made a few suggestions. Contact area hospitals. Do research and use resources. Choose a few (activities) and plan (and execute) them well. All were in agreement that we should be selective and plan well in order to do it well. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Lorenzo suggested that we pursue the idea of a “nearly new” sale at the Center. She suggested that proceeds benefit LOAS. It was noted that OLMC does this in August, and we do not want to compete with them.

**Other**

None

**Announcements**

Next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, February 12th, 2008 at 7:30 P.M. at the Community Center. Note location change.

Volunteers are still needed for Winterfest. Contact the Recreation Department if able to help.

**Action Items**

It was suggested that an Action Items area be added to the minutes.

<b>Person Responsible:</b>	<b>Action Item</b>
<b>Ganim</b>	contact Lake Hospital regarding Open House/ Recreation/ Health-Fitness Fair
<b>Lorenzo</b>	begin planning for “nearly new” sale
<b>All</b>	research / brainstorm ideas for Open House/ Recreation/ Health-Fitness Fair New Recreation Programs/Activities

**Adjournment**

<b>Motion:</b>	Motion by Vitale, seconded by Beal, to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 P.M.
<b>Roll Call:</b>	Ayes: All Nays: None
<b>Result:</b>	Motion carried. <b>Meeting Adjourned.</b>

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Chairman

Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra J. Fink, Secretary