

RECREATION BOARD  
MARCH 24, 2008  
MINUTES

A meeting of the Recreation Board of the City of Milford, Nebraska was held at the City Hall Office, 505 1st Street, in said City on the 24th day of March 2008 at 7:00 pm. Present were: Mike Walkowiak, Jim Davenport, Lorna Frey, Jeff Heckman, Jodi Roth, Terrance Stinson, Shelly Tolle, Rose Kenney and LeAnn Hauder. Also present: Ben Ramirez, Ken Burkhardt, Sheila Burroughs, Susie Fortune, Mrs. Weyers, Mrs. Kalkwarf, Jeanne Hoggins, Kendall Nitzsche, Rod Schildt and Nancy McGill with the press. Council member Lyle Neal arrived later.

Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to the members of the Recreation Board. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the members of the meeting. All proceedings herein after shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Jeff Heckman called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm. Heckman pointed out the Open Meetings Act poster on the south wall of the meeting room.

**Approve Minutes:** The board approve the minutes of the March 10, 2008 meeting.

**Finalize Team Selection:** Directors Rose Kenney and LeAnn Hauder updated the Board on the final numbers for each team. There was only one family that we were not able to keep brothers together for traveling reasons. Everyone else had there needs met. The fifth grade will be getting assistance from the fourth grade to fill a complete team. They will travel together. The girls U10 team is short players. Options were presented to find a way to allow these girls a chance to play ball this summer. Options consisted of moving some of the age appropriate players down and possibly playing in Pleasant Dale or Seward. Discussion was held as to having a skills day before or during sign up to possibly get the kids excited or encouraged to register.

**Discuss field rental of U18 Girls:** Several coaches and parents of the Sports Express softball club were present to ask the recreation board to lower the cost of the field rental from \$40.00 to \$20.00 per field. They expressed their concern of having a majority of girls on their team from Milford; they do not consider themselves a "select" team due to the fact that they do not have tryouts. They will accept any Milford child to play ball. Everyone on the team plays, maybe not equally but they all get in the game.

The recreation board is allowing the Legion Jr. Team to play at Welch Park ball fields for no charge. The recreation board responded to this comment based on the fact that the City Recreation Program does not offer an opportunity for this age group of boys to play ball thru the City. There are no leagues in place and the only choice they have to play ball at this age level is to join a Legion Team.

The recreation board has spent numerous hours to try to come up with a policy that covers the needs of the City and yet is affordable and comparable to surrounding communities. The fee of \$40.00 per field has been in place for several years. There have been other ball clubs that have asked to use the fields at no charge. Basing their proposal on the fact that majority of the kids on the team are from Milford.

The U18 Express Softball team is not a cut-throat team. They are just looking for a place to provide a home game. Parents expressed their concern of keeping the kids off the streets and out of trouble and to provide a positive setting for the youth.

After much discussion A motion was made by Tolle to have more information behind the rental prices. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

A motion was made by Frey and seconded by Walkowiak to lower the field rental prices for sports express U18 to \$20.00. Tolle commented that it wasn't fair to just allow this team a cheaper rate. It should be equal for all teams. Roll call vote: Walkowiak no, Davenport abstain, Frey no, Heckman abstain, Roth no, Stinson no, Tolle abstain. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Walkowiak and seconded by Roth to lower the field rental price to \$20.00 for any team with 75% players from the Milford School Dist for the 2008 season i.e. for the field prep & lights no other expenses such as umpires. Roll call vote: Walkowiak yes, Davenport abstain, Frey yes, Heckman abstain, Roth yes, Stinson yes, Tolle abstain. Motion carried.

**Finalize Coach Selection:** Coaches and assistants were finalized for each team by the recreation directors and board.

**Discuss new Pepsi Contract:** The City signed a 7 year contract with Pepsi starting March 2008. Pepsi will be changing logos on the scoreboards and providing 2 new coolers.

Rose Kenney had a list of questions for the Recreation Board which included: Coaching Clinic, refrigerator space at the concession stand, popcorn machine, larger first aid kit for concession stand.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Stinson and seconded by Tolle to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Davenport