

# Newsletter

November 2005

Next Meeting,  
November 28, 8 pm at the  
Community Center  
7:30 pre meeting for  
budgets

## October Meeting Highlights

*The Meeting was called to order at 8 pm.*

*Present:* Commission Members:

M. Kelly, T. Mulligan

S. Patamia, R. Seifert

Recreation Director: C. Johnson

Recreation Secretary: D. Tanzola

*Absent:* Commission Members: J.  
Bernabe, J. Doniloski, N. Healy

*Public:* Charles Rivera, Brian O'Connor,  
Carl Ertle, Harry Shaw,  
Pat Castellano, D. Clark, Guy Sobieski,  
Leo Yanas, Chris Dennehy, Tom Haynes,  
Tony Perusso, Kathy Clyne, James Cas-  
tellano

*Correspondence:*

Financial update from J. Doherty, CFO  
dated 10/24/05

*Public:*

Prior to public comments,

S. Patamia reported about her contacts  
regarding clay mounds and portable  
mounds for Donatoni Park. She gave re-  
ports from the following:

Bill Neiman, Softball Coach for Morris  
Hills High School

Nick Soloway, District Administrator

Patrick Hollis, Little League Headquarters

Sal Matrianni, Montville Recreation

Neal Healy, Head of Field Maintenance in  
Milburn

Kerry Baker, who runs a pitching clinic

Pat Castellano inquired what the  
Recreation Commission thinks. S. Pata-  
mia responded that the field should be  
shared by both boys and girls and safety

must be taken into consideration.

Harry Shaw said that he thinks  
mounds are dangerous for softball  
players.

Charles Rivera asked if there  
has been an increase in the number of  
girls playing softball. T. Mulligan  
responded that the number is evenly  
split between boys and girls. C.  
Rivera stated that use of the field  
should be evenly balanced between  
boys and girls with the safety factor  
considered. He is against the proposal  
of a raised mound.

Pat Castellano, VP for Little  
League Softball stated that he has  
played on fields with both clay and  
portable mounds. He has no issue  
with either. The volunteers will need  
to take responsibility for the mounds.  
His vote is to use portable mounds.

Brian O'Connor stated that  
he is on both sides but believes a port-  
able mound is the fairest way to make  
the field usable for both groups. The  
mound will adversely affect the girls  
but will not be a bad thing for the  
boys.

M. Kelly asked if a portable  
mound could be placed on the big  
field. S. Patamia and C. Johnson both  
said "yes". M. Kelly said we should  
put portable mounds on both fields.  
This way it will be fair for both boys  
and girls. R. Seifert and S. Patamia  
agreed. Two games can be held at the  
same time. C. Johnson said the  
mounds will not interfere with soccer

and football's use of the field.

Tom Haynes said everyone  
should be allowed to use the fields and  
asked how much a portable mound costs.  
S. Patamia answered that a good quality  
mound will cost \$2000 - \$2500.

Kathy Clyne thought it is a good  
idea to use two portable mounds. This will  
make both fields equitable for boys and  
girls. She asked if the Recreation Com-  
mission could think of ways to draw in  
teenagers. She suggested a Skate Park. A  
lot of kids are interested in skate boarding  
and they are getting chased from various  
places in town. She knows of unsuper-  
vised open skate parks in various towns.  
S. Patamia replied that she will look into it.

T. Mulligan said J. Mirabella and  
J. Beatty would love to have more kids  
participating in Babe Ruth. S. Patamia  
suggested forming a "Just for fun" league  
for the older kids. K. Clyne said the town  
needs to be proactive about treating kids.

Tony Perusso said there should be  
equal treatment for boys and girls. There  
should be more communication and par-  
ticipation from parents.

Brian O'Connor was curious  
about the girls getting squeezed out of  
practice time when tournament time comes  
along, by both men's and women's soft-  
ball. C. Johnson responded that the girls  
were not squeezed out. The women ad-  
justed their schedules for the girls and the  
men were not involved. The men and  
women's leagues were discussed. The  
teams pay a league fee and there is no in-  
terference with the Little League fields.

S. Patamia said the use of field time is worked out and the kids come first. Mr. O'Connor asked if the men and women will use Donatoni fields. C. Johnson said "No".

*Chairman/Director's Report:*

S. Patamia

- Distributed copies of the Recreation Commission Rules and Regulations. She and C. Johnson have reviewed them and made changes. The Commissioners should review them and make any suggestions

- Discussed the Loss Control Report from the insurance company. Recommendations include replacing the play set at Smith Field and the blacktop at Centennial Park. The money will come from the 2006 budget.

- Stated that Rules and Regulations need to be established for the walkways at Park Lake and Donatoni Park. R. Seifert said the rules for the walkway at Park Lake must be coordinated with Rockaway Township.

- She has the price for the new 40 foot flagpole with flag at Donatoni Park: \$3,038.00

- She is still working on brick pavers for Donatoni Park.

- Distributed the start of the field inspection report for the 2006 Budget. She will finish off Park Lake. The Commissioners should review and make suggestions.

- Reported that she spoke to Police Chief Farina about the parking for Smith Field on Lincoln Ave. He suggested she contact a company which manufactures pedestrian signs. He suggested looking at vertical barricades for the police to put out. They will put them out if they know about the games.

C. Johnson reported

The budget letters have gone out. Football, wrestling, cheerleading and soccer have turned in their budgets as of this date.

The meeting in November has been moved to the last Tuesday.

Stated that she is pleased how everyone came together in making a decision about the mounds that is good for all the kids.

*Old Business*

Mike Kelly asked if basketball hoops are still being considered for Donatoni Park. C. Johnson and S. Patamia said things are still in the works, the park is a work in progress.

R. Seifert reported the matting has been ordered for the Thomas Jefferson Gym and should be in and installed in two weeks.

*New Business*

S. Patamia asked for a motion for portable mounds on both fields at Donatoni Park. A motion was made by M. Kelly and seconded by R. Seifert. All in favor.

S. Patamia asked for a motion to include the portable mounds in the 2006 Capital Budget. A motion was made by R. Seifert and seconded by T. Mulligan. All in favor.

M. Kelly asked if there will be a field house to store the portable mounds during winter months. S. Patamia said there will be a storage facility.

*Commissioner's Reports:*

T. Mulligan reported that Little League will hold signups on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Winter Wonderland, and they would like to sell 2006 Recreation Cards that day.

C. Johnson responded that she will order the new Recreation Cards. The players should fill out an application for the Recreation Card and give a signed check. C. Johnson will send out the cards. She should be informed if there are any kids who cannot afford a Recreation Card.

Purchase Order #	Vendor	Account	Amount
13289	Dezine Lin	Football	300.00
TOTAL			300.00