

City of Norwich

Youth Board Meeting

March 5th, 2008

Present: C. Sastri
B. Burton
J. Brunshmid

Also: R. Mason

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

Winter Programs: A winter program update was provided as follows: Most programs concluded in February, with baseball and softball continuing into early March. Registrations reached 315, 17 more than in 2007 with more registrations due in from 3 programs remaining in operation. .

Gymnastics 107 Wrestling 99 Soccer 34 Baseball 21 Softball 25 Bowling 29

The gymnastics program was discussed and initial reports that the activity may cease next year may not have been accurate. The instructor has relayed his interest in continuing. Assistants may be available and the condition of the school equipment has not been officially reviewed.

B. Burton stated he has checked into a possibly volleyball activity as an alternative or additional program. Two volunteers to run the activity may also have been located. A site would need to be found for the most likely Saturday 2009 winter season.

Ron Lewis has been in contact with the Youth Bureau and will be putting together alternate programming ideas for winter and/or summer seasons.

Skating Facility: The facility was open 7 days in February with 306 skaters. Combined with the 8 January days and 563 skaters, this made for only 15 suitable days for the year, but totaled 869 people on the ice. R. Mason noted it was a bad year for good ice because of the weather, but also noted the facility most likely would not have been open in February had he not cleared the ice with his own vehicle and time and sprayed ice at night. Maintenance of the facility at night and over weekends has been a question since the rinks opening almost 12 years ago. The ice rink continues to be a very popular place when open and the only one of its kind for some distance. If it isn't maintained it cannot be used. Various ideas for weekend and night maintenance were discussed including contracting it out or hiring ice maintenance staff through the Youth Bureau at minimum wage and without benefits. Many people using the facility comment on how it adds to the quality of life in the area.

AED FUNDING: No additional contributions for the device have been received. R. Mason noted that the summer season was approaching and a unit should be in place for the pool opening. Other avenues for funding may be taken to acquire this device.

SUMMER YOUTH BUREAU EMPLOYMENT: Past years staff will be contacted for return personnel. New applications should be submitted by early April. Applicants from the City are generally considered first to fill vacant positions. C. Sastri suggested contacting the guidance office at the high school to promote summer youth bureau employment among the students.

THE KIDZ ZONE: Information from Lesley Lawrence concerning establishing a “Kidz Zone” in Norwich was received by the Board. After review of the proposal and discussion it was noted that there was no such facility in the area and little available for youth in the 6 months to age 5 category. B. Burton motioned to send a letter of support to Ms. Lawrence, seconded by J. Brunshmid, all in favor.

YOUTH AS RESOURCES GRANT: Information concerning mini grants through the Chenango County Youth Bureau was received for local youth developing programs or activities. Awards of up to \$250.00 are available. Interested youth with proposals should contact the Youth Bureau office soon with proposals. Deadline form submission to the County Youth Board is April 7th.

Having no further business, the Youth Board was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

The next regular meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be April 2nd, 2008 7:00 PM in the City Hall meeting room.