RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 22, 2024

Commission Members present: Andrea Weinstein, Jane Shernow, Mary Alvarado, Julie Katz,

Commission Members not present: William DeRosa

Staff: John Adamovich, Recreation Director, Theresa Bahner, Pool director, Chris Bahner, Assistant Pool Director, & Jon DeMayo, Office Manager

Liaison: David Vogel, Board of Selectmen

Meeting Recorder: Jon DeMayo, Recreation Office Manager

1) Meeting called to order 7:05 PM

2) Public Comments: None

3) Minutes: Jane Shernow made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the October 23rd. Julie Katz seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Jane Shernow made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 4th. Mary Alvarado seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Julie Katz made a motion to approve the special meeting minutes from December 12th. Mary Alvarado seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

4) Chairman’s Report/Vice Chairman’s report: Andrea thanked the Recreation Department for keeping things going. Thanked the commission for continuing to volunteer their time. Andrea mentions Mike Helfenbein will not be serving on the Rec Commission anymore. We will be sending him a thank you note for his years of service as a commissioner. Community & Cultural Center is a process. The Community & Cultural Center project is linked with the Firehouse plan to build a shed. Nothing definitive of when the ground will be breaking. The money for this project has to be spoken for before this fiscal year is up. The committee is still meeting regularly.

B) Vice Chair report – none
5) **Liaison’s report** - David Vogel reports that Mica expressed a preference for getting direct reports from the Chair to the Board of Selectmen. It will give the Selectmen a better understanding than a liaison report. It is more impactful to hear from boards and chairs directly. Have not assigned any liaisons yet for any of the new board members. This is the first year that we had an election in November which throws a wrench into the budget season. David mentions there is a lot of turnover but also a lot of new people with good ideas. Did not have news on the gazebo, but mentioned Mica is working very hard to get up to speed on every issue that is out there.

6) **Pool** – John Adamovich gave a report on the pool. The pool is filled, and the window is holding. In the process of balancing chemicals which takes 3-4 weeks. The pool temperature is currently 58 degrees. It needs to be heated up to 82 degrees. That will take an extra week added on to the 3-4 weeks to balance the chemicals. The last thing the pool needs is it has to be inspected and certified by QVHD. The approximate date of reopening would be the end of February. John mentions he had a meeting with the Superintendent of Beecher, and she informed us that the building will be closed on the last day of school. The next day they start complete construction of the roof and the grounds. There will be nobody allowed on school grounds. The Beecher summer program will be at the Amity Middle School in Bethany. Our Camp Director, Nick Dottori, will be meeting with the Superintendent of Amity to see if we can have our summer camp at the High School. We will also be reaching out to the Woodbridge Club to see if we can use their pool again. John mentions finding a spot to put the waterslide at Amity High School.

7) **Recreation, Pool, & Facility Program fees**: none

8) **Personnel**: none

9) **Director’s Report**:

A) **Health & Wellness Fitness Center**: 56 members. A lot of people attend during the daytime.

B) **Outdoor Facilities**: Pickleball nets left up at Center Rd Courts. Beecher North Tennis court nets are also still up. John said the pickleball nets should hold up throughout the winter.

C) **Tennis Courts/Skating Rink**: John is very proud of the skating rink. Over 30 people at the skating rink on Sunday. Over the last 3-4 days the rink has been used a lot. John wants a multipurpose slab at Alegi property. He was asking residents for their support on this project.
D) Programs and Sports: Over 300 students involved in our afterschool and night programs. Saturday gymnastics and basketball are great programs. John mentioned all kids going through the program are coming back. John said Dave Cohen does a great job with the programs and getting staff to work.

E) Financial Report: Income report right on par with last year’s income besides the pool rental. No income coming in for pool rentals because it’s closed.

10) Policies and Procedures:

A) Facility Request Form: Andrea asked if we could put the form on the website. Also add Drug use prohibited to the Community Center Rules page. Will revisit next meeting after corrections are made.

11) Publicity: Jon DeMayo mentions the Woodbridge Town News will no longer print a paper version of the newspaper. The newspaper will all be online now. The December/January issue of the Woodbridge Town Newspaper advertised all the yoga classes and winter youth programs. The enewsletter had all the yoga programs, badminton, health & wellness center, and girls’ basketball clinic advertised. A town Facebook post about our new cooking class also went out. Theresa mentioned she posts a lot of Rec news and programs to the Woodbridge Facebook groups. Julie asked about getting permission from parents to post testimonials. Andrea & Julie stated it would be a great idea to have the Residents Assistance Fund on our website for people to contribute to year-round. Julie also mentioned it would a good idea to put that on the Road Race flier as well.

12) Correspondence-

A) Field Request: Jon DeMayo said the field requests were almost the same as last year. Everson Soccer April program will have to start on May 5th and end on June 9th to avoid a conflict with Bethwood Baseball. Amity Youth Lacrosse requested both the big fields and little fields for Mondays at Pease Rd which would be a conflict with Woodbridge Soccer who uses the little fields on Monday. John mentioned Everson is buying us brand new soccer goals for $3,000. They will not be charged for the upcoming season. Julie Katz left the meeting at 8:00pm. At this point there was no Quorum to take a vote to approve field requests. Approval of field requests will take place at the next Recreation Commission meeting on Monday, February 26th.
B) Letter from Catherine & Lloyd Suttle to the Recreation Commission supporting the renovation of the pool. The pool is too important of a resource to lose it. Swim programs are invaluable to town residents and especially to our children.

13) Other Business: none

14) Adjournment: No Quorum. Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jon DeMayo, Office Manager