

WOODBRIAGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

11 Meetinghouse Lane
Woodbridge, CT 06525
203-389-3446

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES Monday, April 17, 2023

PRESENT:

Commission Members present: Andrea Weinstein, Michael Helfenbein, Jane Shernow, and Mary Alvarado

Commission Members not present: Smith Mowry & William DeRosa

Staff: John Adamovich, Recreation Director

Board of Selectmen Liaison: David Vogel

Meeting Host/Recorder: Jon DeMayo, Office Manager

Public: none

1) Meeting called to order 7:06 PM

2) Public Comments: none

3) Minutes: **Jane made a motion to approve the minutes from Monday, March 27, 2023. Mary seconded the motion.** Under item 6, Pool, will also be using should be will also be using. Under Directors Report, Program and Sports, Center should be Center School Gym. With those changes **all voted in favor.**

4) Chairman's Report/Vice Chairman's report: A) Andrea extended her gratitude to the Recreation Department staff and Recreation Commissioners for all their hard work.

Kim Hynes is stepping down from the Recreation Commission. We have a new Rec Commissioner, Julie Katz.

Summer Concerts are coming along. Andrea would like to see the plywood falling off on the Gazebo at the Town green fixed before the summer concerts.

The Community & Cultural Center Building Committee did a walk through of the Old Firehouse. John will be working on a program outline for the new community center. There will be a space for a café, a space for meetings, and a space for fitness & rec equipment. Andrea mentions they will be bringing in the Directors for their opinions on design. Things are moving along.

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B) Vice Chair report –None

5) Liaison's report- David states at the Board of Selectmen meeting the board members were shown a discouraging photo of the pool window. The window is now deteriorating because the pool has not had water in it. Pools are very complicated. Water in the pool creates a tremendous amount of pressure. There is an engineering component to emptying a pool. David mentions the pool is a very important issue for the Board of Selectmen. There was unanimous support from the board to approve the purchase of the filters. Until the budget meeting on April 24th not much will be done about the pool window.

6) Pool – John thinks the money from the ARPA grant should be used for the repairs of the pool. It is a great opportunity for the town and that is exactly what the ARPA grant is for. David mentions the town received a 2 million dollar grant with a 5 million dollar budget. Every department has asked for money for various projects within their department. The grant is going to be spent in other places other than the pool.

7) Recreation, Pool, & Facility Program fees: Recreation has gone up on program fees every year except during COVID. John mentions the USA swimming rate is \$15 per hour per lane for a 6-lane pool. Woodbridge Aquatic Club uses all 6 lanes. Mike put together a report on how many hours the pool got used by Recreation, Woodbridge Aquatic Club, and Beecher School in 2019. Public swim had a total of 1,639 hours, summer camp had a total of 205 hours, WAC had a total of 748 hours, and the school learn to swim program had a total of 440 hours. The total expense to run the pool is \$232,000. Based off the hours the pool was used, Mike came to \$74 per hour for a pool rental fee. Mike stated he wants the pool to be a valuable asset to the town. We must help the town come close to covering the cost. One of the major goals moving forward should be expanding the use of the pool. Mike welcomes Tony Genovese to join our meeting to help us with the pool usage cost. David commends the Rec Commission for going forward with this. He recommends Tony Genovese to join us to help with the cost of pool usage. Andrea mentions this is a very critical issue. David agreed with Andrea and stated you can't continue with the same fees.

8) Painting pickleball lines on Beecher Tennis Courts: John wants to paint pickleball lines at the Beecher North tennis courts. 55 and under would use Beecher courts and 55 and older would use the Center Rd courts. Mike asked about the condition of the Beecher Rd courts and John stated that the condition of the courts is fine.

Mike made a motion to use \$2,000 from the Road Race funds to convert one of the Beecher Rd courts to 2 pickleball courts. Andrea seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

9) Personnel: none

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10) Director's Report:

A) Wellness & Health Fitness Center: Up to 38 paid members.

B) Outdoor Facilities: Great Shape. Town crew does a great job maintaining the fields.

C) Tennis Courts/Skating Rink: Tennis Courts in excellent condition. The skating rink is closed.

D) Programs and Sports: 260 children signed up for Spring programs. Running Club started Monday, April 17th with 20 kids.

E) Financial Report: Expenses through March 2023 are \$375,938.69 that is 71.9% Expenses through March 2022 were \$382,076.76 at 73.6%. The income through March 2023, was \$123,445.00 at 50.4%, of that 86% of the recreation fees were collected by credit card. Fees collected through March 2022 were \$111,242.01 at 61.6%.

11) Policies and Procedures: - none

12) Publicity: John mentions Jon DeMayo has been sending out email blasts every week. Jon DeMayo stated publicity goes out every month in the Woodbridge Town News. Town of Woodbridge Newsletter, and Town of Woodbridge Enewsletter.

13) Correspondence- Two thank you letters went out to Jim Franco for his dedication to the Rec Department over the years. One letter from the Recreation Commission and one letter from the Recreation Department.

Next meeting May 22, 2023 7:00 pm. Beecher South Assembly Room

14) Adjournment: **Jane made a motion to adjourn. Michael seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:22 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jon DeMayo