WOODBRIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director
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RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Meeting by webex

In accordance with Governor Ned Lamont’s Executive Order 7 B Section 1, which suspends the open meeting requirements of in-person participation, audio and video of this Special Meeting is being simultaneously televised live on WGATV Channel 79 and youtube@WGATV79, in order to allow the public to view and listen to our meeting. You may access it here at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OlbmH-JMsRk

PRESENT:
Commission Members present: Andrea Weinstein, Smith Mowry, Mary Alvarado, Jane Shernow, and Kim Hynes

Staff: John Adamovich, Recreation Director, Theresa Bahner, Pool Director

Liaisons: Mica Cardozo, Board of Selectmen and Ellen Scalettar, Board of Finance

Recorder: Jon DeMayo, Office Clerk

Meeting called to order at 5:09 pm

1) Impact of COVID-19 on Recreation Programs:

A) In-person programming that needs to be cancelled or put on hold: Andrea starts off by saying Recreation’s mission is safety, wellness, fun programming, and learning. She thanks the Rec Dept. for supporting this ongoing mission during this challenging time. John states the summer concerts have to be controlled. The average attendance for each concert is between 450-600 people. We would not have the space to keep within the social distancing guidelines. With all of that being said, John reports, the summer concerts are canceled. The bands were contacted, and they are willing to play at next year’s concerts. John explains that summer camp was also canceled. The Rec Department would have to employ their own nurse. The summer camp nurse is shared between Beecher Road School’s summer camp and Woodbridge Rec camp. John states he talked with Beecher Road School’s nurse, Stacey Katz. She explained to John that the Rec Department would need to hire two extra staff members to be out front for arrival time. They would need to take the temperature of every camper before they got out of their car. They would have to wear gloves, a mask, a gown, and a face shield which would have to be changed out for new equipment every day. John mentions that Jon DeMayo looked at 7-8 different companies for PPE supplies. The earliest we could get these supplies would be in between June 29th and July 29th. We would also need a cleaning crew for during camp as well as after camp. If a camp group were to use the game room or the arts & crafts room, a cleaning crew would have to come in and sanitize the room before the next group could come in and use it. The whole building would also have to be sanitized every day after camp as well. John believes it would be very tough to run camp under these guidelines. John reports the pool and fitness center will be closed for the summer. We are targeting to open up in December depending on how the Covid virus plays out.
B) **Woodbridge Rec Distant Learning programming** - the current programs and ongoing brainstorming of programs that can be offered: John explains that Theresa Bahner is putting together a virtual summer camp program. It will be comprised of three 40 minute periods. The first period will be education, the second period will be athletic workouts, and the third period will be arts. The price of virtual camp would be $30 a week for the first child, $20 for the second child, $10 for the third child, and the 4th child and above will be free. The price of all 6 weeks of virtual camp is $180. If you sign up for all 6 weeks of virtual camp we will reduce the price to $150 for the first child, $100 for the second child, and $50 for the third child. The new camp dates will be June 22nd – July 31. John reports we have almost 300 people utilizing our virtual programs now. Theresa is doing a fabulous job keeping us in the light with our virtual programs. Smith also thanks Theresa for all the hard work she does with the virtual programs. Theresa explains that on Monday we offer story time, Tuesday is history 101, Wednesday is a topic on safety, Thursday is STEM class, and Friday is arts & crafts. Theresa is also going to reach out to Meagan Acampora to see if there is any content she can think of to provide for special needs. Andrea mentions to reach out to Nancy Pfund to see about financial help that could be helpful for Camp Hero. Andrea reports that Bill Banick has continued to run all of his yoga programming virtually. He will also try to start a kid’s yoga called Ninja yoga. Mary mentions starting a virtual running club where they can submit what they’ve run every week. Smith said there is an app they can use to add the distance they’ve run every day. Theresa lets the commission know if anyone has any ideas to email her at woodbridgetownpool@gmail.com.

C) **Impact on field request:** Fields are still closed until further notice.

D) **Staffing:** Andrea states if she knows anyone who wants to teach virtual classes she will direct them to Theresa. Theresa will then determine if they’re appropriate to teach the class. Smith said if the SEP program is not running some of their staff may be looking to teach virtual classes.

2) **Public Comments:** None

3) Andrea Weinstein made a motion to adjourn. Mary Alvarado seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jon DeMayo
Office Clerk