

# WOODBIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

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

RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, August 24, 2020

IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNOR LAMONT'S EXECUTIVE ORDER #7b. SECTION 1, WHICH SUSPENDS THE OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS OF IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION, AUDIO AND VIDEO OF THIS SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE TELEVISED ON youtube@wgatv79 IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO VIEW AND LISTEN TO THE MEETING. YOU MAY ACCESS IT HERE AT:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtzPIC9jqig>

## PRESENT:

Commission Members present: Mary Alvarado, William DeRosa, Michael Helfenbein, Kim Hynes, Smith Mowry, and Andrea Weinstein

Staff: John Adamovich, Recreation Director, Christopher Bahner, Assistant Pool Director, and Theresa Bahner, Pool Director ,

Board of Selectmen Liaison: Mica Cardozo

Meeting Host and Recorder: Jim Franco

Public: none

1) Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm

2) Public Comments: no public comments or emails sent in

3) Minutes: William DeRosa **made a motion to approve the minutes from Monday, June 22, 2020. Smith Mowry seconded the motion.** Andrea mentioned that in item number 5, Recreation has continued to have virtual programming to promote community wellness, and mental and physical health not is. Under number 8, Swimmers must come dressed in their bathing suits. In the same item, nine sentences later, a discussion will take place about the opening of the pool. Under Liaison report, Mica raises that the budget has passed and has a one present decrease. **With those changes, all voted in favor. Kim abstained.**

4) Liaison report: Mica reported that Superintendent Bob Gilbert has retired. The budget task force is looking into a zero increase or a 5% decrease and its impact. The Transfer Station is still in the red, so the Board of Selectmen will look at fees. The Town Counsel is involved in a suit about the artificial turf at the High School. Full time personnel were added at the Library per the Personnel Committee. Town Hall is still not open to the public. There is no update on the Darling House other than it is not open, and there is no caretaker. Recreation's usage of the Old Firehouse was tabled until the next meeting, which will be the second Wednesday in September.

5) Chairman's Report/Vice Chairman's report: Andrea began by checking in with everyone. She expressed condolences to Smith in the passing of his brother in law, Chip. Smith thanked everyone for their emails and cards. Andrea congratulated John-

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Michael Adamovich on his wedding. His wife Danielle is a teacher at Amity. Andrea thanked John, Theresa, and John-Michael for the virtual learning classes contributing to the positive health and well-being of youth. Jim Franco said he is doing well and mentions that the office has been busy with tennis permits. John Adamovich has been visiting the fields. He mentions how signs went up at Sperry Park. Overall he says people are wearing masks and Woodbridge is doing a good job. Bill DeRosa mentioned that he is busy at work, and the family is in good health. Mary Alvarado said all is well. Smith thanked everyone, again. He mentions that he is ready to go back to work. His school will start with 85% of the parents sending their children to school. He adds that Beecher will start full time on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Kim Hynes mentioned how Fiona is in her Junior year. Mike Helfenbein explained how he has been working remotely, and that he will continue to do so for the rest of the year into January. He is very busy. His daughter is off to college, and he is fortunate that the family is healthy. Chris Bahner is still working. He has been busy with the boat and the Fire Department. Theresa Bahner has been still isolating. She is working at home and she continues to run the virtual programming. Andrea has been well and has been working at home. Mica is well and busy. Michaela may be a student teacher at Beecher.

6) Pool: Jim reports that WAC is doing a great job. Dave and John will meet to work on a fall schedule. They have been following the rules. Parents have been on time. As far as opening the pool to the public, we need a custodian. Perhaps we can open up just on the weekends. There probably won't be a noon time swim because the school wants no visitors in the building during the school day. The same may be true for early bird. If we open to the public, there are bins that patrons would put their belongings. There would be no locker rooms. Swimmers will come dressed in bathing suits. Swimmers would come in hour shifts. 45 swim time, and then 15 minutes for cleaning. A plan will be worked on for the September meeting. Currently, the pool is only open for WAC, which they are paying for the custodian.

7) Personnel: none

8) Director's Report:

A) Fitness Center: Closed. It will not open until January.

B) Outdoor Facilities: Michael reported seeing children without masks at the Pease Road field during the Recreation clinics. There were multiple programs going on at the same time as our Rec. program on other fields. Not sure which program it was but John asked Michael that he should have reported it to him right away, so John could have taken care of it immediately. John reported that there is a supervisor at Pease Road field to monitor the language of the basketball players. If it gets out of hand, the players are asked to leave. There are pick-up games being played there. Players are asked to wear masks and social distance to and from the court. The netting that the Parks Dept. installed helps keeping the ball away from going into the playground area.

C) Tennis Courts: Very busy with tennis permits. Pickle ball has been going excellent on court 3.

D) Programs and Sports: Michael would like to see a list of programs being offered before they are promoted. John has some ideas for after school programs with Nick Dottori and Jon DeMayo running programs at the Pease Road athletic fields with ten

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students at each field. These programs won't start until October. A list will be put together for the September meeting. Smith inquired how indoor programs will be effected. Jim explained that the South Assembly room will be used for parent pickups, and Extended Day will be using both North and South gyms. So, when Jim spoke with Vito, there is no time table as of yet, when the Beecher custodians would have the South Gym cleaned for Recreation usage. John said how Chris and Theresa are doing an excellent job with the virtual programs. The sports clinic was slow the first week, partly due to the computers being down, but enrollment rose to the 10 student maximum for the remaining weeks. John thanked Fire Chief Sean Rowland and Assistant Fire Chief Chris Bahner for the Fire Department providing bottled water. The virtual Cooking camp was full for the first week, but did not run its second week. There is hope that the fall class will do well. The Road Race will be cancelled. Jim mentioned that this information is set to go out in the Town Newsletter as well as the Woodbridge Town News. A question arose about having a virtual 5K race. Smith will look into this. John will check with Chris Dickerson about it. John learned about the race held at the former Country Club property after the fact.

E) Financial Report :. The current expenses are at \$25,669.66, 8.8% Last year at this time, we were \$161,121.17 28.7%. Current income is \$0. 0% because no programs are running. Income at this time last year was \$36,147.42 15.0%.

9) Policies and Procedures: none

**10) Correspondence**- A) Amity field request to extend their field usage time from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Michael breaks down field requests into three areas 1) Rec. programs 2) CIAC, and 3) private companies. The Commission would like for all scholastic programs not to start until October 1<sup>st</sup>. John will speak with Ernie and work with the High School. Programs that have already been previously approved, and have started will be allowed to continue, as of now. That includes adult soccer programs, Beth-Wood baseball, and Everson Soccer for example.

11) Other Business: none

Next meeting September 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 pm

12) Andrea Weinstein **made a motion to adjourn. William DeRosa seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.**

Respectively Submitted,

Jim Franco  
Office Manager