

Minutes

Westfield Recreation Commission

June 7, 2021, 7:30pm

- OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT
- ROLL CALL – missing Paul Monusky
- FLAG SALUTE
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES, May 3rd meeting – Amy motion, Ron second
- PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING – no comments
- TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT – Scott Katz – Welcome Summer! Bike board, joint project with Green team & Recreation, fall event. Town council meeting is Tuesday June 8.
- BOARD of EDUCATION LIAISON REPORT – Rob Garrison – Election day, Wilson, Roosevelt, and Edison will be virtual. New Principal at Wilson, Asst. from Edison, Crystal Marsh.
- DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Don Bogardus – will let my team tell you what is going on.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **POOL: - Heather Re** – Opened this weekend! Happy swimmers, busy! High attendance, new families. A lot of new staff. 5 days of in-service plus orientation. Still hiring lifeguards. Pool maintenance & landscaping help needed.
- **PARKS & FIELDS: - Russ Howell** – usage policy, existing process for field usage request form but also Tamaques pavilion and Mindowaskin bandstand. Create one document for all parks and facilities. Annual maintenance and capital improvement, pulling together a list of all requests for example the playground at Memorial needs updating, replacement. Would create a shareable document, create a process. Trails at Tamaques, going to enlist a professional trail maintenance company, include the DPW, WHS Cross Country/Track teams, Eagle scout projects etc to see how to do it properly and thoughtfully. Kiosk at Brightwood, with signage. Friends of Brightwood will fund the Kiosk. (see new business)
- **FINANCE: - Amy Berman** – April & May trust account reports went out. Programs & Camps are doing great! Program update next month.
- **PROGRAMS: - Lauren Harmer** - Camp report – 212 campers enrolled, 348 total accepted. Staff is returning but open positions are available. Restriction update on 7/9. Senior Transportation is back! 3-5 people per ride for bus. Available 65 or older who do not drive or have a car, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Tuesday and Wednesday are Medical appointment only. Thursday is shopping day at Shop Rite in Clark. Senior programs are opening this weekend. Some of the offerings are Zumba, watercolor classes with grandparent/grandchild classes. Lining up handyman for seniors.

Linda Johnson - Spring programs are going well, Summer camps are filling up, Field Hockey, Fashion, Lego, Magic, and STEM Build by me (Photography & Robot building) Disc golf,

Pickleball, Babysitting, CPR classes, One time class for ages 2-7 at Brightwood. Fitness classes, Zumba, Kick boxing.

➤ **MEDIA RELATIONS: - Tony Stewart** - taking over from Russ Howell, no report.

OLD BUSINESS: - Memorial benches are moving ahead.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tennis Court Reservation system – court use at Tamaques and Memorial. Residents are asking to bring back the reservation system. Civil Rec has the capability to handle so it is nothing to add to the staff. Jenn Gilman recommends that the reservation system be brought to the Parks & Field committee.

The Board of Ed is looking at resurfacing and improving the courts at Elm Street.

Friends of Brightwood Park, possible Kiosk Donation – Messaging board, cork board, Ellison Outdoors is a company that was suggested for the Kiosk. Trail maps and information on birds and plantings. Ron Feldman made a motion to approve the donation and purchase of Kiosk Amy Berman second, all in favor no opposed. Recreation department will maintain the Kiosk and keep the literature updated with current events.

Instructors' fees were suspended during Covid to use parks for their private business, this should now be reinstated. In the past Don chased down the tennis instructors. FB and phone calls notified the department of boot camps, and other instructors conducting fitness classes. It is really on the honor system. Jenn recommended that if it gets out of hand that we can use signage. The fees were \$25 per hour. Liability insurance and hold harmless agreement was required. Fee schedule for outside tennis instructor 15-19 hours \$150 per season, 3 hours per day. 20-28 hours 4 hours per day is \$300 per season. Most agree that we should relax the covid policy. What existed pre covid and what exists today. Non-residents vs residents, for profits vs. not for profits etc. Parks and fields will review and come up with some new rules but in the meantime, Russ Howell makes a motion to go back to pre- covid rules. Ron Feldman second all approved.

Jeff Perrella motion to adjourn. Amy Berman second. Meeting ended at 8:45pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

All Correspondences were e-mailed to the Commission Members

Dates to Remember:

Next Scheduled Commission Meeting – Monday, July 12, 2021 at 7:30pm