

MINUTES
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 16, 2019

Recreation Commission Members present: Ann Delaney, Paul Tucceri, Joyce Cannon, Mitch Katzman, Shelia Moylan, Elizabeth Phillips, Lynn Connors, and Bob Phillips via phone

Recreation Staff Members present: Nicole Banks, Rich Adams, and Joe Bertone

Call to order: at 7:09 pm by Ann Delaney

Public Comment: none

Consent Agenda:

- a) Approval of the Minutes: Moved to approve the minutes of November 18, 2019, by Paul Tucceri, seconded by Shelia Moylan.
- b) Monthly Report- November/Nicole will be reporting on two items from the budget in the director report. Winter brochure is out and the Winter swim team has started and is at maximum capacity per league rules. Aquatics is hoping to clear participants from the waitlist who would like an opportunity to train but not compete in meets. Next year there might be a category of "conditioner swimmers".
- c) The apparel order for the Recreation Commission members was discussed.

Commission Member reports

- a) Tennis League update by Elizabeth Phillips. She was in the role of volunteer coordinator, and Amy Devo and Rich Pond were also involved in the leadership. A new can of tennis balls was available for each match and this was very good. Those balls would then be used for summer programming later on in the year. From a pricing standpoint, \$75 in town and \$100 from out of town. This was a pilot program. Everyone registered through the Recreation Department. The group would like to continue to play May to October, Sunday nights 6-8 pm. A limit of 20 available spots is recommended (17 or 18 people were registered, just with the news being out by word of mouth.) Three courts are used and there were more available for those that showed up to play independently. We will want to use Signup Genius to be able to sign up for matchups, going forward. It might get difficult to match people up if they do not know their levels. There was a discussion of the need for a place for the beginner level player. It would be a different league. This was an add-on after the brochure came out since the lights were completed. No one ever had to wait to play while the league was going on.
- b) HS court repairs requested by Elizabeth Phillips. Recommendations for repair include the third court near the woods, there is an area that has been pulled up near the cement and some of the painting needs to be touched up. A recommendation for next year the nets need to come down prior to the snow. There are some cracks as well which should be monitored.

Director/Staff Monthly report:

- a) **Events update** - Joe Bertone discussed the New Year's fireworks. We will be repeating a similar program, day, time and company supplying the fireworks are the same. Communication with the Westwood Fire Department has approved the permitting. Signage is up on Nahatan Street near High School, Facebook posts are up and visible. The weather can affect the event, wind or rain could make us use the "Raindate" which is the next day, on the first of January, instead of the 31st of December. A reverse 911 call would be used if the date has to be changed due to weather. It is sponsored again by Roche Bros. and is scheduled for December 31st at 7 pm. The Westwood DPW will cover the detail for the event. It can be viewed from WHS or TMS lots. DPW is ready

and able to clear snow if needed. A thank you goes out to Roche Bros. for their continued community support.

Winterfest collaboration with Westwood Young Women's Club. Joe and Kelley provided a craft project of snowmen and homemade hats and it was viewed as fun and worthwhile. Another part of Winter Weekend included the tree lighting and a horse-drawn carriage that goes through the Birch Tree Drive area.

- b) **Financial reports** - Rich Adams presented the summer statistics report and year-end scholarship update. Summer Financials were strong. General Rec balance increased by \$62k and Aquatics balance increased by \$10k. Part of this was due to no one being placed on a waitlist, as well as a fee increase due to the minimum pay increase.

Rich presented the scholarship report outlining that 10 families were provided with scholarships this year and last year there were 16 families that requested financial aid. The total amount of financial assistance was equal to what was provided last year.

A question was raised by Paul Tucceri, regarding the cost of the repairs to the pool and the connection to the overall budget. Discussion included that the pool is an asset in that it is a valuable draw for the programming. There will be a downtime for the pool for some major repairs.

- c) **Fields/Facilities update:** Nicole Banks provided an update that as part of the clean energy grant, a new energy-efficient boiler is being installed at the pool. The installation will be completed this week and the pool did not close during this time, thanks to Sue who monitored the old equipment very closely.

Nicole made the recommendation that time be scheduled for the field subcommittee to meet to discuss field fees and for them to bring a recommendation to the Recreation Commission and Town.

- d) Nicole, in the interest of being green, began a discussion of the meeting agenda and reports being projected on the screen for the January meeting, instead of being printed. The Recreation Commission members agreed to trial it at the next meeting. The packet will still be emailed.

Next meeting: - scheduled for January 27, 2020

Moved by Joyce Cannon and seconded by Lynn Connors to adjourn the Recreation Commission meeting of December 16, 2019, at 8:41 pm.