

DRAFT MINUTES
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
September 19, 2022

Recreation board members present via Zoom webinar remote participation: Sheila Moylan, Katie Collins, Theresa Ann Laham, Rania Kelly, Fouad Matar, Ann Delaney, Mitch Katzman, Joyce Cannon and Paul Tucceri

Recreation Staff members present: Rich Adams

Call to order: 7:03pm, September 19, 2022

Public Comment:

Several members of the public provided comments advocating for the town to offer more inclusive programming for neurodiverse children including at the recreation summer camps.

Those who commented included:

- a) Dana Pallotta, 43 Saint Dennis Drive
- b) Liz Polin, 58 Juniper Ridge Road
- c) Monique Dewan, 167 Carol Avenue
- d) Peggy MacInnes, 92 Phillips Brook Road

Additional Public Comments were submitted through the Chat (read later in the meeting)

- Peggy MacInnes 7:39 PM
 - Suggested the rec department promote inclusive programming via the Special Education staff at Westwood Public Schools
- Tracie Charland 8:12 PM
 - If there was a sensory/quiet hour at the start of Westwood Day, it really only needs to be half hour - not an hour.

Consent Agenda:

- a) Motion to approve the consent agenda: Katie Collins moved to approve the consent agenda, Paul Tucceri seconded. Unanimously passed, no nays.

- b) Motion to approve the minutes: Ann Delaney moved to approve August 22, 2022 minutes, Mitch Katzman seconded. Minutes approved. Passed unanimously.

Commission Members Monthly Report:

- a) Katie to modify last month's minutes regarding changed to registration - board voted to recommend change to registration process

Director/Staff report:

- a) Event Updates: Westwood Day
 - a. Received feedback from residents/attendees

- b. Theresa Ann Laham: food concession area seemed confusing - free v. paid food
 - i. Possible to post menus
 - c. Rania Kelly: Impressed with the event. Would like to see if it would be possible to offer a “sensory hour” - hour for families how have children with behavioral/medical support to attend and enjoy activities
 - i. Recommendation to reach out to Commission on Disability
 - d. Katie Collins: Request for more food vendors. Wondering what cost of the road race registration goes towards.
 - i. Theresa added that runners got lost on the course - might need more signs/people directing runners along the route.
 - e. Paul Tucceri: Request we look to see what other towns are doing
- b) Program Updates
- a. Fall Registration
 - i. Programming just started running. Numbers are higher than past years
 - b. Inclusive Programming
 - i. Hired behavior specialist to help with winter/spring 2024 inclusive programming
 - 1. Will research to see what other towns are doing
 - 2. Create training program to give staff behavioral training (classroom and in-service)
 - ii. Rich to connect Rania, Paul, and Theresa offline to see what they can do to help
- c) Financial Updates - Winter/Spring 2022
- a. Registration increased over last year
- d) Fields and Facilities
- a. Pickleball
 - i. Meetings with DPW and Town Finance
 - ii. Need to discuss foul ball mitigation
 - 1. Netting will be an additional cost - would like to include lighting
 - 2. Katie: would like to discuss at some point possibly just paving the Sheehan court
 - b. Pool Deck Retile
 - i. Received quotes that came back double engineering firm’s estimate
 - ii. Project on hold

Other items not reasonably anticipated by the Chairman 48 hours in advance of the meeting:

- none

Next meeting: Monday, October 17, 2022 tentative meeting date

Motion to adjourn by Paul Tucceri, second by Ann Delaney, passed unanimously. Recreation Commission September 19, 2022 meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Submitted by Katie Collins