

APPROVED 11/20/2023

MINUTES
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
October 16, 2023

Recreation board members: Sheila Moylan, Katie Collins, Paul Tucceri, Theresa Ann Laham, Kyle Piche

Invited Attendee:

Recreation Staff members present: Rich Adams, Sue Perry

Call to order: 7:04pm, October 16, 2023

Public Comment: none

Consent Agenda:

- a) Motion to approve the consent agenda: Theresa Ann Laham moved to approve the consent agenda, Paul Tucceri seconded. Unanimously passed, no nays.
- b) Motion to approve the minutes: Theresa Ann Laham moved to approve the September 18, 2023 minutes, Kyle Piche seconded. Minutes approved. Passed unanimously.

Monthly Report:

- a) Registration for fall programming is at a record high
- b) Field Hockey programming has expanded to three age groups (grade 3-4, grade 5-6, grade 7-8)
 - a. Good feeder program for high school field hockey

Commission Member reports:

- a) Donation to Westwood Rec
 - i) Recreation department can accept gifts towards the entire department or towards a specific cause
 - ii) Westwood Foundation for Education gave Westwood Recreation two grants:
 - 1) Funded first Inclusive Program
 - 2) Funds staff training to work with neurodiverse children
 - (a) Hope to start training mid-November
 - (b) Trainer level, leader/counselor/instruction level, volunteer level
 - (c) Training for high school or college students who would want to work in a program that is designed for neurodiverse students
 - iii) Donations can be made out to the Town of Westwood, including a note that it's for a specific cause, and handed to Rich Adams
- b) Morrison Basketball Court
 - i) Was resurfaced back in 2019 at a cost of approx \$20k
 - ii) Life expectancy is 3-5 years
 - iii) Rich will collect quotes for resurfacing and repaving

- c) Recreation Programming - After School
 - i) Rich met with superintendent and town administrator
 - ii) It is our understanding that the school is looking to increase capacity for extended day
 - iii) Hopeful that Westwood Rec can be part of the solution
 - 1) Westwood Rec would need space in the schools
 - iv) Transporting students from one school to another can be a challenge. Easiest way to facilitate these programs is for students to transfer to rec programming at their schools

Director/Staff report:

- a) Events Updates
 - a. Westwood Day 2023 - Recap
 - i. Great turnout considering the weather
 - ii. Not as financially successful as previous years due to expenses (stage, generators, etc)
 - iii. Highest turnout for the Fun Run
 - iv. Train tipped over due to tight turns
 - 1. Train driver didn't follow the same route as in previous years
 - 2. No major injuries
 - 3. Police department followed up with every impacted family
 - v. Looking for more events to attract families with young kids/Recommendations from Recreation Commission members
 - 1. Petting Zoo
 - 2. Small Touch a truck
 - 3. Magician
 - 4. Balloon artist
 - 5. Antique cars
 - 6. Ferris wheel/merry-go-round
 - vi. Sheila recommended all members on the recreation commission volunteer for a minimum amount of hours
 - vii. Westwood recreation has met with the Town to explore options for more external help to plan and execute Westwood Day
 - b. NYE Fireworks
 - i. New Year's Eve fireworks returning
- b) Program Updates
 - a. Winter Programming Planning
 - i. Hoping to complete winter planning by end of October
 - ii. Registration is expected to be on December 1st
 - c) Winter Registration: Resident Head Start
 - a. Meeting with a registration software company on October 18th.
 - b. Software build is complete
 - c. Hope is to have resident head start for winter registration

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

Next meeting: Monday, November 20, 2023 tentative meeting date

Motion to adjourn by Paul Tucceri, second by Kyle Piche passed unanimously. Recreation Commission October 16, 2023 meeting adjourned at 8:41pm
Submitted by Katie Collins