

Recreation Commission Meeting

20 Sanderson Street City Offices and Greenfield Community Youth Center

Thursday, August 10, 2023 at 6pm

Attending:

- Myrtron Jaquay, Donna DuSell, Heather Valenta, Dan Piasecki and Christy Moore

6:04 pm Meeting Started

6:05pm Approval of July 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Myrt made a motion to approve minutes as is and Dan seconded. All voted in favor.

6:06pm Public Input/Discussion

- None

6:08pm Recreation Director's Report

PROGRAM UPDATES:

GRASP (Greenfield After School Program):

- Enrollment packets are available and coming in daily. The department is still determining staff and have posted positions on indeed. Will need a site Coordinator if not two and Group Leaders for both sites. Hiring and finding people over 18 who met the regulation requirements is challenging. The department also needs to hire a Teen center assistant.

Camp:

- In week seven with one week to go! A challenging couple of weeks with staff and sickness. Everyone is tired and exhausted. Today there was a visit from Animal Adventures and the campers loved it. Aquarium trip last week was a huge success just very hot and humid.

Start Smart Soccer:

- Soccer is finishing up next week. Weather has been challenging this summer for outdoor lessons.

Basketball Clinic:

- Also finishing up next week. Weather has been challenging this summer for outdoor lessons.

Co Rec Softball:

- Playoffs start next week. League will have two brackets of five teams per the manager vote. Games will start on Tuesday and play through Sunday as needed. The department have posted no pickleball for next Saturday due to the parking issues on tournament weekend.

Office Updates: Registrations and Rentals

- The GRASP registrations continue along with Facility Use Requests.

6:15pm Old Business:

Triathlon:

Event had 246 registered athletes with only 218 racing. Department staff was amazing with setting up and breaking down the event. It was a very long weekend with key individuals missing. The department really needs to recruit new tri committee members to shadow some of the veteran members.

Department was really short on volunteers this year and therefore had to hire several staff to help. The changes to the course and transition and finish line area seem to be well received. The tri committee will debrief further in September. Myrt thank you for your assistance with breakdown as everyone was spent at the end of the day! Several bike tire blowouts and one ambulance check but the athlete did not leave via ambulance. The river was 63 degrees for the swim. Mackenzie Hall placed first overall in international and Tom Drenzo placed first overall in sprint. The department will work on posting pictures as soon as they can.

Parks and Programs:

The Department will need to check playgrounds and be ready for school to start. There are a few upcoming programs to promote and a movie next week, Finding Nemo.

6:25pm New Business

Fall Programs

- **Soccer** – starts on September 9th – October 28th – the registrations should be open tomorrow or Monday. League meeting is next week with the other Towns. Shayla has a lead on two soccer officials this year!
- **Rec Room / Teen Center Opening** – department is finalizing details and operational procedures for the start of the program. There are staffing concerns, if anyone becomes ill and who will cover.
- **Halloween** - Christy submitted paperwork for Licensing Commission to approve later this month. The department is preparing the dental request letters and will coordinate with GBA, Greenfield Garden, and the YMCA would like to hold an event too.

Community Preservation Committee CPC Projects

- Christy provided updates from FY23 approved projects. The department is waiting on the contracts from the City. As a recap for the funds that were approved the first round of CPC are: making the track at the high school ADA accessible, fitness cluster at Shattuck Park, Highland trail restoration, city wide outdoor amenities, and a feasibility study for pickle ball court.
- Donna shared the last CPC meeting was July 27th and she thought the CPC contracts should be returned by now. Donna shared that the goal of CPC this year is to get things ahead of capital requests. Christy reminded everyone that it is the first year of CPC and that there are still lots of procedures to work through to make this a seamless process.

- It was noted that Pre apps are due by September 15th. Full apps are due November 15th.
- Recreation Commission discussed pre-applications. Suggestions included looking through capital improvement plan to see what could qualify for FY2024 CPC applications.
- Donna shared the importance of citizen input about Hillside Park for the walking path and shade structures by the splash pad.
- Christy shared that she received two citizen suggestions:
 - Jon Magee asked us to consider bike racks at trail heads. He will submit a Pre-app.
 - Jim Fotopulos suggested the Tech school refurbish the historic carriage that the City owns to be used at special events. Christy shared with him that it would need to be supported by DPW and the Historical Commission.
- Potential ideas for CPC applications: Energy Park if the solar panels do not work should we consider removing them and creating a larger area for gardens and a storage shed. Acquiring property on 106-108 Stone Farm Lane for park expansion or 385 High Street for trailhead parking. Creation of a walking path/sidewalk around Beacon Field.

Next Meeting Date: September 14th at 6pm

7:27 pm Adjourn – Motion made by: Myrt

Seconded by: Dan