

RECREATION COMMISSION
Greenfield Community Youth Center
September 15, 2022 6pm

Attending: Myrt Jaquay, Heather Valenta, Barb Zaccheo, Donna DuSell, and Christy Moore

6:02pm Call to Order

6:03pm Review of May, June, and August 2022 Meeting Minutes

- Christy will review Mary's draft of May 2022 meeting minutes.
- Barb will submit to Christy the April and June 2022 meeting minutes.
- Carryover action items from the August 2022 meeting minutes:
- Nancy Hazard wants to connect with folks interested in trails for possible Community Preservation projects.
- Christy will contact Caitlin von Schmidt to express interest in extending for Myrt, Barb and Heather.
- Christy check in with Jennifer Hoffman if she's still interested in serving on the Commission.
- Christy will propose to the Mayor that the swim area be closed after summer camp ends.
- Next steps: Construction meeting and Skate Park schedule and order supplies to start in fall 2022. Christy hopes that site work will happen this fall and needs to be completed by May 24, 2023.
- Christy is working on the rules for the Skate Park.
- Recreation is considering a float in the Franklin County Fair parade.
- Christy/Kelly will soon meet with Dan Gagaris to "brain dump" about Triathlon.
- Fireworks revenue/budget is being worked on to share with the Commission at a later date.
- Decide at September 2022 Recreation Commission which to pre- apply for Community Preservation funds- possibly Shattuck fitness cluster, bocce court and bleachers. Lots of interest in pickleball courts and pump track whereas the community will hopefully push these ahead.

6:04pm Director's Report

Swim Area Updates:

- Christy is working with the Department of Public Works to determine the best date to move all supplies back to the building for storage. Hopefully this will be next week as the recent rains had the Department very concerned. In preparation for next season, Christy will be presenting a few changes for approval hopefully next month in regards to the Swim Area refund policy language, weather closure policy language and age for unaccompanied youth. Also, Christy will work on updates to the website (once approved) along with a revised registration form specifically for passes.

Skate Park:

- As you have read in the paper and perhaps saw on social media or mass live, the skate park project has begun.
- The kick off meeting was held on September 2nd.

- Construction fencing and erosion control barriers are starting to go up. Chain link fencing will be on site soon to close off the entire area prior to the start of construction.
- Mountain View received DPW's permits this week and Dig Safe approval was due this week as well. Brad from Pillar Design is our Construction Administrator to ensure that the park is built to the design specs. One of the first items to order is the shelter. Christy shared document 12x20 and color options- Evergreen roof and black posts. Lead time is 18-20 weeks for this. Christy anticipates three months of concrete work for the project. Colors selected by Recreation Commission were Evergreen for the roof and black posts.
- The Salvation Army volunteered to provide water for the construction workers.

Program Supervisor Position:

- Human Resources has recently hired a new HR Generalist so Christy anticipates setting up interviews in the next couple of weeks. Christy and Kelly are eager to get someone in the position.

Fall Soccer:

- The Department has had a huge boom in soccer this year with 9 total teams – 5 pee wee, 2 junior and 2 senior teams. DPW even marked out an additional pee wee field at the river to accommodate the additional team.

GRASP:

- Each site is filling up this year. There is more enrollment at Federal Street this year and Newton students than last year which is great. Ben Hernandez is the Site Coordinator at Federal Street and Sara DeCarlo is the Site Coordinator at Four Corners. Christy and Kelly are still hiring Group Leaders but are in a much better spot than last year. Kelly and Christy are still training staff as they are new team members. Once staffing is complete the Department will be able to open up for additional slots as staffing allows. School communication has been supportive as well.

Triathlon:

- Christy held a debrief meeting this week with the committee. The Department will be looking at a few minor changes to the website in regards to registration and some formatting changes. Otherwise the Tri is on track as normal. Christy and Kelly need to find volunteers who can take over some of the more physical needs of the committee during race week as our members are aging and need to train new members. Any interest, or know anyone, please let Christy know.

Green River Park:

- Christy shared she has received two emails concerned about the parking at the park specifically on Sundays. As co-rec softball has ended, adult flag football will be at the park through November. Christy has contacted the coordinator and asked him to speak to the groups and cone off the entrance to the footbridge as people had blocked it with vehicles. Christy even suggested that all park users (sports, dog park, pickleball) can park at Green River School however the school lot has been empty. Christy has asked the police to swing by this weekend. DPW and Christy reviewed the other potential facilities for flag football but ultimately confirmed that Green River Park is the best one.
- The long term solution may be that the City needs to expand the parking maybe across the street. This would be a future project to purchase the land and develop.
- Christy is working with dog park supporters and Susan Worgaftik to apply for a Stanton Foundation grant. Christy is working on completing a report for the application. Heather

estimated about 200 dogs/week. The grant would add more benches, a shed with concrete pad for storage of shade umbrellas and temporary fencing, bowls, toys and add more rice stone.

6:37pm Old Business

- There was a Recorder article today for the temporary art installation of hearts at Energy Park. Commissioners asked if Christy was aware of this project. Christy responded that she had multiple conversations with the organizer and did grant permission for the temporary art installation.
- Commissioner shared that the Pickleball users suggested the Recreation Department to buy the Korean church next to the YMCA.

Open Discussion

6:43pm New Business

Halloween

- Christy will attend the Licensing Commission meeting next week for parade permit and City Common approval.
- Letters to local Dentist have been sent, WHAI confirmed, GCTV is confirmed although they are looking for an emcee. GBA will be contacting businesses. Christy shared the new Rag Shag flier.
- Christy and Kelly added a new category for the dogs – Best Howl-Ween and removed most original and replaced it with funniest.
- Christy needs to contact judges and the GHS band but the Rag Shag plans are coming together. Stoneleigh Burnham students will help again this year as well.

Winter Carnival:

- Christy is looking at dates for next year. First weekend dates in February is 3-5, 2023. The Commission voted in favor of this date and ideas for themes are welcomed.

Fireworks:

- Christy is looking at dates for next year. First weekend dates are Saturday, July 1 and Sunday, July 2 as rain date 2023.
- Winter Carnival \$4,000 last year. July \$11,500 last year. \$7456.49 in Friends fireworks fund balance.
- Myrt and Donna proposed \$4,500 for Winter Carnival and \$12,000 for Independence Day. Heather made a motion, Barb seconded and all voted in favor.

Community Preservation Committee

- Donna provided an overview of the application process, funding, and how applications will be scored. Christy asked for thoughts on applications from Rec Dept to include which could include:
 - Bocce \$50,000 (already have \$40k from Capital)= total project is \$90k
 - Fitness Cluster at Shattuck \$25,000
 - Bleachers - Murphy 8, GR Park 4, Abercrombie 2, Hillside 2, GMS 2 \$105,000
 - Site Amenities - corn hole, ping pong, chess, foosball \$109,000
- For pre- application, Myrt made a motion of Bocce, Shattuck fitness, ADA for GHS track (Christy will check if DPW handle this or maybe Ginny Desorgher apply for that?), and concrete site amenities; Barb seconded. All Voted in favor.

- Christy research to match someday with Friends fund or revolving or youth money for future CPC applications?
- Christy has received interest from citizens for the following projects so far. They will pre-apply depending on interest with Recreation Department as City support.
 - Highland Park trails improvement
 - Pond Restoration-state approval and lots of bureaucratic steps to protect environment.
 - Tennis Courts at Highland – upgrades to water fountain which would include new piping from Highland Ave to courts with meter pit, etc.
 - Pump Track interest at Wedgewood Gardens or elsewhere.
 - Pickleball- no location assigned yet.
 - Outdoor swimming pool- no location assigned yet.

Open Discussion

Movie in the Park:

- ET on Friday, September 23rd at 7:15pm.

Mutts and Mayhem:

- Sunday, May 21, 2023- Heather proposed the date, Barb seconded and all voted in favor.
- Brownfields Site renovation grant may come in November 2022 so Rec Dept supplies stored there will need to be moved.

Future Agenda Items

- Abercrombie Field and parking arrangements for baseball practices and games given new ownership of former Greenfield Center School and renovation/development
- North Severance Park: The Youth Football League has requested to use the park for practice. They would also like to place a shed on site for equipment. Sometime this spring, Jeff Bengston and I will meet on site to determine the best location for a temporary storage unit. Need to confirm location and size of unit.
- Parks tour for Commissioner

Next Meeting Date: October 20th at 6pm

Adjourn – Motion made by: Barb 7:46pm Seconded by: Myrt