

**City of Greenfield
Recreation Commission Monthly Meeting
Thursday, October 21, 2021
6pm**

Attending :

Christy Moore, Myrt Jaquay, Donna DuSell, and Barb Zaccheo

6:06pm CALL TO ORDER

6:05pm REVIEW OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

- Donna updated that Caitlin McKenna decided against joining the Commission due to other commitments. She would like to be contacted to volunteer at events. Christy updated with the same information about Rachael Kashner.
- Myrt made a motion to approve the September 16, 2021 meeting minutes with no edits and Donna seconded. All voted in favor.
- Heather and Myrt will become permanent Commissioners in December 2021 and new folks will be alternates.
- Carryover and current action items are listed in yellow.
- Christy will check in with Taffy on her future as a Commissioner and backfill for Rachael Kashner with other potential Commissioners.

- Christy is still waiting to connect with Comcast on the Teen Center internet connection.

- Commissioners are encouraged to propose ideas for the Sustainable Greenfield Committee position to Christy.

6:08pm PUBLIC INPUT/DISCUSSION

6:09pm DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PARC Grant for Skate Park:

- Christy attended the Mandatory Grant Award meeting this afternoon. There were a few changes on the milestone timeline for projects compared to the last award for Green River Park project. All minor and workable in the design and construction timeline. Christy is working with a Land Surveyor to combine parcels and then separate the skatepark parcel. Currently, there are six deeds in the current parking lot. The Skate park will shift to the Northern part of the parking lot so the location will be closer to the Senior Center not Main Street. The Skate Park will be a park in perpetuity.

- Christy is hoping to wrap this up soon, so that we can submit resolutions to the council for vote and approval. Christy will need multiple readings and encourages the Commission's support during this process. Christy will keep the Commission updated as this moves forward.

Skate Park Fundraising:

- Ben Goldsher has another fundraiser this weekend, Sunday, October 24, 2021 at Hawks and Reed.

GRASP (Greenfield After School program):

- The Recreation Department did receive a License for both sites. The Department is still searching for staff for both sites including coordinators and group leaders. There is a waitlist for Four Corners School and approaching capacity at Federal Street. Some kids still take buses to Federal from Newton School. Pay starts at \$13.50/hour.

Soccer:

- Season is wrapping up with awards presented this weekend and the jamboree next weekend.
- Barb added that she welcomed the Deerfield Academy soccer coach for DA players to help out again in future seasons as Recreation Department soccer players greatly benefitted from this in the past.

Basketball:

- Due to lack of school space, the Department may not be able to offer basketball league again this season. Options are being explored. The pandemic complicates matters- for example, the gym is used to socially distance students while they eat lunch. Federal Street School does not have sufficient room for older basketball players and has no space for spectators.

Budget FY23:

- The Department is starting to develop a budget for next year including reviewing positions and any additions. One idea is to add a position for someone to manage camps and after school programs. Christy will share a proposal at the December meeting.

6:30pm OLD BUSINESS

87 Stone Ridge Road:

- The house and six acres were sold in an auction for \$270,000 to an investor from Hadley. Christy is working to preserve the 13 acres abutting this house and Highland Park- hoping for an easement for hikers and bikers through the six acres.

Christy and Superintendent of Schools:

- They are still working to set up a meeting- busy schedules!

Friends of Greenfield Recreation:

- They need to meet before 12/31/21 and discuss a budget.

Greenfield Soap Box Derby:

- Donna is interested in having a debrief of this fall event and to finalize the donation to the Skate Park including donations that came through Facebook- she'll need Kelly's help on that.
- Donna is working to sell tshirts that are leftover from the event.

6:36pm NEW BUSINESS

Halloween:

- Flyers were distributed through the public schools. The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 30th. Setup at 3:00pm with event to start at 4:00pm with a parade at 5:30pm. Christy is happy to share that Heidi Gebo, Director of Auxiliary Programs from Stoneleigh-Burnham School reached out to the Recreation Department to get involved with the department and community. Roughly 10 students will be helping this year at the event. Christy may need help from the Commission with judging as she has a few "maybes" from the usual judges. Myrt and Barb will be available to help at the event.
- Christy may need help from Commissioners to stuff the bags with goodies from the local dental offices.

Capital Plan:

- The capital plan has been revised and updated. Christy shared the plan.
- The next 2023 projects for \$141,000 that are proposed are a fitness cluster at Shattuck Park, a new swing set at Newton school, and outdoor amenities such as concrete ping pong table, solar charging for electronics, concrete corn hole, concrete foosball, another chess table, and a bike repair station at Beacon.
- Future projects were discussed from 2024 to 2032. Projects are detailed on the capital plan and included ADA bathrooms and water fountains at Murphy Park, Abercrombie/Green River and Murphy Park bleachers, Rocky Mountain Ridge Trail, etc.
- Myrt made a motion to accept the plan as presented, Donna seconded and all voted in favor.

Winter Carnival 100th Anniversary:

- Christy shared an "idea sheet" and brainstormed potential new and large sponsor ideas. The Department is working on updating a special sponsorship for the 100th anniversary.
- The Commission liked the theme of "Centennial Celebration" instead of Celebration of Century, Celebrate the Century, or A Century of Celebration.
- Christy is exploring a MA Cultural Council grant of \$1500.
- Christy met with the Mayor about special funding and theme selection.

- Christy also suggested a new costume for the event as Olaf's costume is getting old and tattered – It will be purchased through Friends of Greenfield.
- Some of the active public art installations are very expensive however were fun to look at.
- Summit Ice is not in favor of a huge old fashioned, tall, ice tower shaped like Poet's Seat with two slides coming out of it due to liability. They estimate a \$5500 price tag even without the slides- there's a lot to sculpt in the tower design.
- Christy will explore an outdoor blizzard bash with an ice bar and dress up for the Winter Carnival event at Hawks and Reed.
- Christy presented the idea of doing yoga in the snow, hungry hippos on snow tubes on an ice rink and giant human bowling.
- Myrt shared the name of Jonathan Boschen who has done incredible historical video pieces on Greenfield in the past. Christy will also reach out to GCTV.
- Other ideas included: LED, light water drummers, and fire dance performers, snowshoe and cross country races and snowshoe softball. Also, snowball relay, capture the flag, snow Quidditch, and canine keg pull. Replace breakfast with Olaf with a spaghetti supper with Yeti or Olaf donuts. Perhaps, restaurants offer winter carnival themed menu items.
- Next steps; get sponsorship letters out, secure funds from the Mayor if possible, bid out the fireworks, and finalize print materials.

Mutts N' Mayhem:

- The date is proposed as May 22, 2022 at the Green River Swim Area. Dogs and their owners will participate together. Heather and Myrt are working on the event with a few others for now. The main focus now is how to lay out the obstacles. The pool will not be open yet for the season. More details to follow.

Future Agenda Items

- Is there a timer for the Dog Park lights?
- Donna and Christy continue revival of Friends of Greenfield Recreation.
- Christy will approach the Mayor about the Energy Park property boundary.
- Donna agreed to research the screening of movies at the Greenfield Garden Cinema as a future fundraiser for the Friends.
- Christy will check if a port a potty could be rented for the Beacon Field movies.
- Christy reach out to local manufacturers for donations for the robotics program.
- Budget
- Summer plans

Next Meeting Date: November 18, 2021 at 6pm

Adjourn at 7:25pm – Motion made by: Myrt Seconded by: Barb

All voted in favor to adjourn at 7:25pm.