

RECREATION COMMISSION
Greenfield Community Youth Center
November 17, 2022 6pm

ATTENDING:

- Christy Moore, Barb Zaccheo, Shayla Demers, Donna DuSell, Mary Phillips, Heather Valenta, and Myrt Jaquay

6:01pm CALL TO ORDER

6:02pm INTRODUCTION OF SHAYLA DEMERS, Program Supervisor, AND COMMISSIONERS

6:05 pm REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY, JUNE, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND OCTOBER 2022

- Mary made a motion to accept all minutes with only typo “trial instead of trail” in October 2022 minutes, Myrt seconded and all voted in favor.
- Carryover action items from:
- 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.
- Christy will work on updates to the Swim Area website (once approved) along with a revised registration form specifically for passes.
- Christy and Kelly need to find Triathlon 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.
- Christy research to match someday with Friends fund or revolving or youth money for projects proposed for Community preservation funds.
- Christy review the leases for various parks including Abercrombie, Lunt, and Murphy.
- Mark Lombard of New England Mountain Biking used to be on the Recreation Commission- could be good for Kim to network with him about NEMBA grants, etc. for Highland Park trail improvements.
- Christy meet on CPC Letters of support – from the Recreation Department and/or commission for other projects?
- Christy needs to create and develop the policies and procedures for the Teen Center program. There was a candidate from a recent applicant pool that Christy may speak with to gauge their interest. Otherwise, Christy will post the part-time position (20-25 hours/week).
- Christy follow up with Eric Heavy who is the School Facility Manager, to navigate the school use requests for Federal and GMS for basketball.
- Christy work on revenue/budget to share with the Commission at a later date.
- Christy is working on the rules for the Skate Park.
- Commissioners are encouraged to propose ideas for the Sustainable Greenfield Committee position to Christy.

- Christy is working with Eric about the City's recent ownership of a 13 acres parcel and an easement to the surrounding six acres (there's also a house there that someone just bought at auction) in Highland Park- check in on this in Spring 2023.
- Barb email to Christy her completion of Ethics training and also the one pager.

6:19pm PUBLIC INPUT

- None

6:19pm DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Shayla Demers introduction

- Welcome and she's been great at her new job! We are grateful to have her part of our team!

GRANT UPDATES:

Skate Park:

- Christy is happy to share that the Kiwanis Club of Greenfield generously donated \$5,400 to the skate park project on Tuesday, November 15th. They invited Kelly and Christy to their meeting to present the donation. The City will be ordering a plaque to thank them as well as honor their 100th year. In the past, the Kiwanis helped fund the Olive Street Skate Park and the \$5400 was the carryover funds.
- Project update: excavation, drainage, water pit & line installed, inspected and approved, City electricians installed conduit and held hold boxes for future cameras. Artisan Skate Parks will mobilize after Thanksgiving to begin to form all the sloped structures for concrete. They plan on preparing all the angled work this fall and finish all the flat work in the spring.

Stanton Foundation Capital Grant:

- The DPW was able to pour the pad for the shed and the two benches last week. The City received the quote for the benches and hope to have stone delivered the week after Thanksgiving. DPW will bring equipment to drop pea stone into the small area. Additional ordering will be placed as time allows for this grant.
- Commissioners may be needed to help spread pea stone around November 30 and Heather will post to Paws Park Facebook to seek volunteers. Sprinklers will be protected while the pea stone is spread.

Safe Routes To School Grant:

- City's grant coordinator Athena is submitting the grant to help improve the sidewalks in a two mile radius around the Greenfield Middle School and Federal Street School. Christy submitted a letter of support for the project. Fingers crossed as this will be wonderful for the community!

PROGRAMS UPDATES:

Basketball Programs:

- Christy hopes to hear from schools tomorrow or on Monday at the latest about gym access at Federal & Four Corners School. At Greenfield Middle School (raised floor from a roof leak) a small section of the floor has water damage and is waiting to be repaired. Christy shared her contact for floor repair with the schools (came from Smith Vocation).
- Custodians are understaffed and need to be on site per union contract if there is a building open.
- Games will need to be played at Federal Street School which is a small gym but that is the only option.

Ski Programs:

- Unfortunately the City will not be offering this program as Berkshire East does not offer weekends anymore.

Capital Plan:

- Everything was submitted and tomorrow Christy presents it to the capital committee.

6:31pm Old Business

Halloween

- Event was very successful. Attendance was a bit lighter than before. Trick or treating was low turnout too. Thank you to Donna and Barb for helping at the event.

6:33pm New Business

Jinglefest- Greenfield Business Association

- 12/3/2022 from 2-4pm. Kelly and Shayla are amazing – they have been working really hard to plan the Amazing Race Jingle Fest Edition. Kelly and Shayla are working with several downtown businesses to make this happen. World Eye, Main Street Bar and Grill, Garden Cinema, GCTV, Mesa, Cleary's, Plum, Moldavite Dreams, hopefully Seymour's, Vintage Vinyl & Greenfield Games. The City is still confirming with some. The City has 6 teams already registered with a max of 15.
- The City needs help at different stations during this Amazing Race event. Barb and Heather can help. Danica and Mary are out of town that weekend. Myrt, Jay, and Donna may be able to. Commissioners try to get more volunteers for Amazing Race 1:30-4pm on 12/3/22.
- Commissioners share Amazing Race flyer on JingleFest website.

Community Preservation Committee- Applications due November 30:

- Heather made a motion and Mary seconded that Donna and Christy work on "Letter of Support" for Community Preservation Committee projects.
- Department has been working hard on these projects. Christy has drafts for:

1. Beacon Field improvements (Bocce courts and drinking fountain at tennis court and baseball field) with Letters of Support from Richard Wedegartner, with potentially two others to come.
2. Shattuck Park fitness cluster – with letter of support from Superintendent along with Lisa Moore PE teacher and Athletic Director Coach K. Christy is hoping for one more from Jennifer Hoffman on behalf of the Health Department.
3. Site Amenities (corn hole at Swim Area, chess at Greenfield Middle School, ping pong on Fiske Ave, solar charging at Beacon Field if it goes well at Skate Park, and bicycle racks at Beacon Field)– with letter of support from Superintendent for Greenfield Middle School locations.

Community submissions:

- Abercrombie Field- Christy met with Tina Crocker and John. They are working on the application and budget numbers for the project. Roof will be donated by a local parent who is a contractor. City put a tarp on it for now. Christy shared with them about development project and parking changes as well as potential for future pickleball courts at Abercrombie.
- Highland Park Trails – wayfinding and mapping project with Joy. Christy met today about this project. She is working on the application with Christy's assistance with the timing and budgeting info. Christy has a letter of support from the Rec Dept, Rec Commission and Conservation Agent for her. Christy has spoken to the grants coordinator Athena and shared with her that the Recreation Department wants to pursue the MASS Trails grant which would help with this overall project costs. In hope of funding from CPC, a capital and trails grant may cover the entire project. Mayor is in support of this as well.
- Highland Park Trails Maintenance – Kim has sent Christy his application – Christy needs to review it.
- Pump Track –Mike McIntyre has withdrawn his application. He would like to complete further research in other locations. He has concerns that some of the bikers may cause damage to the softball fields and does not want that to be an issue. He has notified the Chair of CPC Travis Drury.
- ADA Track – Ginny asked Christy to complete an application. Christy has met with DPW and received estimates for the work now needed to complete the application. Christy has a letter of support from the superintendent. Christy suggested that the ADA access board would write a letter of support but Christy has not had time to ask Ginny to get that.
- Highland tennis court drinking fountain – Brian LaMore is working on the application. Christy did meet with DPW at the site and there is no way to move the fountain closer to the road or make it ADA accessible due to the ledge in the area. If the City upgrades the water line – this project is more than Christy envisioned with the cost of trenching and replacing the piping. Donna prepared a letter of support from Rec Commission and Christy has one from Recreation Department.
- Pickleball – Christy will meet with Amy Proetti tomorrow. Christy has drafted a letter of support and Christy will ask Amy to solicit others.

- Highland Pond – Phil Elmer – Christy believes he submitted for a aeration fountain for the pond.

Winter Carnival February 3-5, 2023:

- Myrt made a motion and Mary seconded to endorse a theme: “Warm and Toasty” and all voted in favor.
- Moving forward slowly with a lineup of activities. Any new ideas? Kiwanis 100th anniversary is entering the parade of lights and will have food truck again.
- Sponsorship and ice carving sponsorships are coming in. Department is increasing the stipend for the carver in hopes of possibly getting more to join. Anyone know anyone? We have businesses who want to have one but need carvers.
- Heather suggested grilled cheese sandwiches be sold at Beacon Field.
- Barb and Mary offered to share their crock pots if needed.

Open Discussion

Future Agenda Items

- Abercrombie Field and parking arrangements for baseball practices and games given new ownership of former Greenfield Center School and renovation/development
- Parks tour for Commissioners
- Energy Park funds with Friends of Recreation-for summer 2023?

Next Meeting Date: December 8th at 6pm

Adjourn at 7:27pm – Motion made by: Mary Seconded by: Heather