



TOWN OF NORWELL RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 9th, 2022 7:00 pm (Town Hall, Lower Level)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christopher Madden, Chair (At-Large)
Shana Hallman, Member (At-Large)
Andrea Warren, Member (At-Large)
Christine White, Member (At-Large)
Patrick Kelly, Alternate Member (At-Large)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

William Lazzaro, Member (At-Large)

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT: George Grey, (Recreation Superintendent)

Agenda

Chair Madden moved to start the meeting at 7:15 pm. The motion was approved 4-0

Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Member Kelly moved to approve minutes from the 2.9.2022 Meeting of the Norwell Recreation Commission. The motion was approved 4-0.

Expenditures

Vouchers provided at the time of the meeting were all signed.

Discussion

Superintendent Grey indicated that the 2nd session of Winter Programs were going well. Brochures for the Spring Program were out today with registration opening next Wednesday March 16th, 2022. Recreation Facility Use, Field & Property Progress updates were that the Gaffield Parking Lot needed some final touches and paving for the sidewalk. There was a suggestion raised that if there was money left over, the entryway to the park could be improved to provide a small performance area. Superintendent Grey discussed the CPC Requests: Osborne West Side Feasibility Study and CCC Phase II feasibility for upgrades with the commission. Chair Madden asked about the ability to plan for or assist in clearing the school equipment stored in the Sparrell Building Gym to restore that area for programs in the upcoming Fall. Superintendent Grey committed to following up with Superintendent of Schools Keegan and Member Warren will follow up with the School Committee to see what can be done.

Other Business

The discussion with Council on Aging Director Curtin started with Superintendent Grey making the introductions to the Recreation Commission. He stated that he and COA Director Curtin are meeting with the Select Board next week, after meeting with both committees, to put together a request for funding for vote at Town Meeting for a COA/Rec

Facility Site Feasibility Study for \$250,000. He added that most of the town's resident between the ages of 0-19 and 31-60+ would be well-served by a facility such as this. COA Director Curtin detailed services currently offered at the existing Council on Aging building to the commission. She noted that people will come for events and programs but that the services that they provide to this demographic is the essential piece. She outlined current constraints such as a (current) 5,000 sq-ft building with about 3,200 sq-ft of useable space has simply been outgrown as the town's population has grown. She added that by 2030, the COA would be serving 3 distinct generations- the 70-90 year olds, the 60-70 year old late Baby Boomers and the 50-60 year old start of Gen Xers. COA Director Curtin has been having discussions about improving the current space with Town Administrator Morin and is actively working on a Needs Assessment Study with UMASS Boston in June 2022 for identification of needs and space into the future. She and Superintendent Grey have been working on identifying needs for a joint Rec/COA facility. A dining space is essential as they serve 130 people currently with grab & go meals. Superintendent Grey identified the need to future proof the space and identify grants/ funding sources that would minimize taxpayer burden. He added that some towns with joint COA/Rec centers are Randolph and Fairhaven with Duxbury, Marshfield and Wayland all opening up newer COA/Senior Centers as examples. Proposal will be provided to Recreation Commission Members to review and provide comments back to Recreation Superintendent Grey and COA Director Curtin prior to submitting for town meeting.

Chair Madden reviewed the sponsorship letter for the 2022 Jacob's Pond Fishing Derby and will be providing a list of sponsors to all Recreation Commission Members. Event is set for May 7th, 2022 from 06:30-10:30. The Commission member decided on the plaque design for sponsors.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Wednesday April 6th, 2022 (7:00 pm)

Wednesday May 11th, 2023 (7:00 pm)

Adjournment

Member Hallman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. The motion was approved 4-0

These minutes have been approved with reading of the minutes by the Norwell Recreation Commission at a public meeting duly noticed and held on 12/21/2022, in accordance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

Signed: _____



Committee Clerk

Date: _____

12/21/2022

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Recreation Department File



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