

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**  
**Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**June 14, 2021**

**Minutes are subject to the approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission.**

**Present:** Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Sheila Anson, Joe Fredlund, Carrie Rowe, Ray Reich, Greg Kraft, Tim Cook. Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

**Call to Order:** Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:37p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the May 10, 2021 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Tim Cook, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Pickleball:** Unfortunately, shortly after the lines for the Pickleball courts were installed on the tennis courts at the Primary School, someone ripped them up. They have been re-installed – thank you Kenyon Clark and Austin Farmer! Paddles and balls are available for use. They may be picked up on the steps of the Town Hall and should be returned when play is finished. A clinic or two may be scheduled in the near future. The Commissioners discussed looking into having the lines painted on the courts to prevent future vandalism.
- **Concerts: The Community Block Party** on June 4<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. The Jazz for Juniors Band was well received and enjoyed. Throughout the Depot, shops stayed open and offered food and drinks, there were booths promoting organizations and small businesses, as well as activities for children. The weather cooperated and added to the overall feeling of optimism as life begins to return to a sense of normalcy following the pandemic! Work is progressing on **Country Night at the River Walk** on July 24<sup>th</sup> at the Pavilion. Look for more details on the Town's website and the Parks and Rec Facebook page.
- **Summer Recreation:** Registration is closed as camp filled quickly. There will be a Standup Paddleboard Camp the first two weeks of August at the Town Beach.
- **Parks and Rec Coordinator:** The position has been publicized with a deadline of June 16<sup>th</sup> to submit letters of interest and/or resumes.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **4<sup>TH</sup> of July 5K:** The annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Stephen Reich Freedom Run will again be held this year at Steep Rock on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Coordinator Jeff Hammond submitted the following report:

**Swim Lessons:** Registration continues, albeit slow and forms have started to come in.

**Concerts:** Jazz for Juniors and the Community Block Party was a great success. The rain held off and everyone seemed to have a smile and was in good spirits. There were more than enough activities for the kids to participate in. Only criticism was lack of food options. While some businesses did offer snacky takeaways, something like a food truck that would have provided a full meal without having to leave the event, would have helped.

Planning continues for Country Night at the River Walk on Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Nearly \$2000 in sponsorships has been collected by Justin Spring of National Iron Bank. These funds will go to offset event costs including additional stage rental, port o potties, security, advertising, t-shirts, etc. T-shirts will be sold at the event as well. All remaining funds after expenses will be distributed to local non-profits.

**Summer Rec:** The core camp registration is closed. It filled quickly. We are offering two weeks of Standup Paddleboard Camp the first two weeks of August. A few registrations have come in for those.

**Pickleball:** A big thank you to Kenyon Clark and Austin Farmer for setting up 2 pickleball courts. We are now working on setting up a clinic or two to introduce folks to the game and teach the basics. Two sets of paddles/balls have been left on the steps of Town Hall to be borrowed. I will be mentioning that in the weekly email.

**CHAIRMAN's REPORT:** C.J. Kersten reported the following:

- **Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2021.**
- **Congratulations to Shepaug Softball** for a great season progressing to the State semi-finals And to the **Shepaug Baseball** for reaching the State quarter-finals.
- **Congratulations to Claire Kersten** for attaining 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the State Class S Track and Field Javelin event.
- **Congratulations to Denise Trevenen's family** on her being awarded the Stephen Reich Award for Exceptional Citizenship posthumously.
- **Congratulations to Shepaug Student, Brooke Donaghy,** for being awarded the Stephen Reich Memorial Award.
- **Condolences to the family and friends of Bucky Ball.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Clerk