

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes
January 23, 2023

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

Present: Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Sheila Anson, Joe Fredlund, Carrie Rowe, Tim Cook.
Community Services Director Jenn Pote; Clerk Mary Anne Greene.
Guest: Joanne Kelly.

Call to Order: C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. noting there was a quorum present. C.J. thanked Facilities Director, Mark Showalter, for attending the Budget Workshop prior to this meeting and welcomed Joanne Kelly - a perspective member of the Commission.

MOTION: To add subsequent business not already on the Agenda. By Sheila Anson, seconded by C.J. Kersten. Discussion: Leap of Faith Summer Lake Tour. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the December 19, 2022 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Tim Cook, seconded by Carey Rowe and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Winterfest:** Jenn Pote will be meeting with Ian Craig, Head of Rumsey Hall School, next week to discuss plans for a possible Winterfest at the school. More details to follow.
- **MyRec.com:** Setting up of this new website for the Commission is going well and should go live on March 1, 2023.

NDW BUSINESS:

- **Swim Lessons:** Jenn Pote has been speaking with Mo VanMoffaert regarding holding open swim days when classes are cancelled due to professional development days. There is a possibility that the pool will be available for swim lessons for a period of time in March and again in May. More details to follow.
- **Morning Swim:** The program is running well. Thank you to the Radcliff's for monitoring. A discussion followed regarding allowing Region #12 employees to participate in the program for no charge. It was decided that all participants should pay the \$25 per month and complete the Waiver.
- **Town Beach-WMS Summer Camp:** Washington Montessori School has contacted Jenn regarding use of the Town Beach for their summer campers on Friday afternoons. Following discussion, it was decided to invite a representative from the school to attend next month's meeting to provide more details.
- **Summer Concerts:** Justin Spring from National Iron Bank is currently working on organizing a concert for July 22, 2023. Jenn would like to offer other concerts on the Town Hall lawn as well with food trucks and breweries in attendance.
- **Spring/Summer Programs & Activities:** Jenn asked the Commissioners to share ideas. Some that have been mentioned are cooking (cheese making) courses, Beach Yoga, coordinating with Shepaug Ag-Science program, etc.

- **Parks & Recreation Logo:** Still in the developing stages.
- **Ping Pong Table:** Jenn explained she has been working on expanding programs for Seniors by utilizing the Bowling Alley area. **Motion:** To authorize an expenditure of up to \$600 for the purchase of a ping pong table. By Tim Cook, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.
- **Leap of Faith (LOF) Summer Lake Tour:** Joel Zeisler of LOF Adaptive Skiers has contacted Jenn. LOF is a volunteer 501©3 non-profit organization that aims to improve the lives of children, adults and veterans with disabilities through adaptive sports, specifically water and snow skiing. The purpose of the Summer Lake Tour is to bring recreational activities to some of the Connecticut lakes this summer. The organization is looking to partner with local towns to offer their residents with all disabilities the chance to participate in adaptive water skiing. The Commissioners asked Jenn to invite Mr. Zeisler to the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission to provide more details.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: C.J. Kersten, on behalf of the Commission, expressed sympathy to the family and friends of Gretchen Farmer, Lynette Cornell, Charlie Showalter, Shawna Godshalk, Deb Forese and Pia Gandt.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:45p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Next Meeting: February 13, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Clerk