

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes
November 8, 2021

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

Present: Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Ray Reich, Alice Demeo, Joe Fredlund, Carrie Rowe, Sheila Anson, Tim Cook. Coordinator Connie Chapin, Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Call to Order: C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:34p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the October 4, 2021 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Tim Cook, seconded by Carrie Rowe and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Beach and Boat Ramp:** Connie Chapin reported that the boat ramp and swimming dock have been taken out for the winter. The floats for the swim dock will need to be replaced as well as the ladder to the dock. Connie will get prices for the ladder. DEEP will be scheduling a "fish shock" which enables them to get a fish count. Connie is waiting to hear from the New Milford Health Department regarding the E. coli status. She has posted a sign at the beach informing visitors the count was high. Sheila Anson has received a request from Joe Mustich to place a flag pole at the beach. Commissioners were in favor of this request. Connie will look into prices for a flag and pole that could be installed on the Beach House as well as a flag and pole that could be placed in the beach area.
- **WPAL:** Connie reported that due to a personnel issue, Rachel Stone and Shawna Godshalk have assumed the role of co-Directors of the program. The number of attendees has increased. A third instructor may have to be hired. Connie also mentioned that with the time change, the back of the Primary School is very dark when the program is ending. C.J. Kersten offered to speak with Don O'Leary, Facilities Director.
- **Harvest Festival:** This was a huge success with over 2,000 attendees. The Washington Business Association and Parks and Rec coordinated the event and will be discussing ideas for next year. A large thank you to Justin Spring from National Iron Bank for all his assistance and time spent before and during the Festival. WBA & Parks and Rec will also be discussing possible winter programs.
- **Morning Swim:** The program is going very well with no complaints about the increase in the cost to the swimmers from \$20 to \$40/month. If the number of swimmers increases, this may be able to be adjusted. Connie recommended making a "drop in" fee of \$10 for those swimmers who would like to participate only occasionally.
- **Pickleball Court:** Connie has spoken with Putnam Tennis regarding the placement of lines for Pickleball courts – taped lines did not adhere and painted lines would not last. The suggestion was made to create courts for "Pop Tennis" which is becoming popular and use the same lines that are already there for tennis. Connie also offered to speak with Region #12 about using the WPS gym for Pickleball courts.
- **Holiday in the Depot:** December 10th. This year will again be an "in person" event with indoor and outdoor activities. Masks will be required inside the Town Hall. Santa has agreed to be

present and will be located in the upstairs mezzanine allowing for entering and exiting by separate stair cases. Connie and Jesse Travers have been meeting regarding outside decorating and lighting and she will be meeting with the Washington Business Association to coordinate with them. She is waiting to hear back from Utopia who provides the horse drawn wagon. The Washington Primary School and Washington Montessori School choirs will be singing and possibly the Shepaug chorus.

- **Senior Project Proposal Update:** No update from Logan Pacific about his proposed basketball court project at WPS.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Collaborating with Senior Center:** Connie has met with Senior Center Director, Pam Collins, and have discussed implementing new and joint programs.
- **Closing the Pavilion:** Traditionally the Pavilion's water is turned off and drained around November 15th. The actual date will be weather dependent. A port-a-pottie will be ordered for placement at the end of the WPS parking lot for winter use.
- **Winter projects:** The doors at the Pavilion will be painted and the kitchen mouse proofed. The stalls in the bathrooms are rusting and should be replaced.

Chairman's Report: C.J. Kersten congratulated the boys and girls soccer teams and the field hockey team for advancing to the state tournaments.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:31p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Clerk