

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes
May 8, 2023

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

Present: Chairman C.J. Kersten; Co-Chairman Sheila Anson; Commissioners Greg Kraft, Joe Fredlund, Carey Rowe, Tim Cook. Community Services Director Jenn Pote, Clerk Mary Anne Greene. Visitors Connor Fitzpatrick, Greg Pye.

Call to Order: Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 5:32p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the April 10, 2023 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Tim Cook, seconded by Carey Rowe and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Food Trucks at Town Beach:** Connor Fitzpatrick and Greg Pye, of Crepe Royale, attended this evening's meeting to discuss the possibility of bringing their "Crepe Cart" – which features specialty crepes, fresh fruits, etc. to the Town Beach. Because of its small size, they would park it on the grassy area to the left of the beach area and would not take up any parking space(s). They would like to start being available on weekends and if business goes well, expand into weekdays. They also have a food truck that has been successful – traveling to various venues, festivals, etc. They are aware of the necessary required permits, inspections and licenses. They are also open to other location suggestions within the Town. The Commissioners agreed to discuss the proposal further and thanked the gentlemen for attending. **Discussion:** The Commissioners discussed the proposal and, although, supportive of the idea, felt that due to new rules and regulations particularly in regard to beach passes/parking permits, a parking attendant on duty, this would not be the season to add in the Crepe Cart – or any other Food Truck/vehicle that may want to be present at the Beach. Several other suggestions were made and Jenn Pote will pass this on to Connor and Greg.
- **Community Block Party:** June 2, 2023, 5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m. in the Depot. Parks and Recreation has secured the bluegrass band – Wire & Woods - who will perform on the Town Hall lawn.
- **My Rec.:** Jenn Pote reported that the website is up and running, has found it worthwhile and registrations for upcoming programs are going smoothly. She would like to continue with it. **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of \$3200 to renew the My Rec website subscription. By Tim Cook, seconded by Greg Kraft. **Discussion:** the renewal fee will be prior to the next budget season and the Commissioners supported its continuation. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Basketball Court Resurfacing:** Jenn has met with Hinding Tennis and resurfacing of the basketball court at WPS is scheduled for the end of June.
- **Pickleball:** Pickleball clinics, under the direction of John Aiello, will be held at the WPS gym beginning May 18th for 7 weeks. 5:00-6:00p.m. for beginners, 6:00-7:00p.m. for advanced. The cost is \$5 per class. There is a limit of 16 participants.
- **Prevention Council Request:** The Shepaug Regional Council for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse has requested assistance to fund a last day of school picnic/movie event at the Pavilion. **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of \$500 for the last day of school picnic/movie

sponsored by the Prevention Council. By Sheila Anson, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Summer Camp:** Registrations are open for sessions from 9:00a.m. – 1:00p.m., 12:00p.m. – 3:00p.m. or both. New programs will be offered in connection with the Gunn Memorial Library, and with staff from the After-School Play and Learn program. Jenn is also working on scheduling Stand Up Paddleboard and tennis lessons.
- **July 4th Freedom Run:** Sheila Anson has met with Resident Trooper Joe Hamel regarding alternate routes for the run. At the present, the proposed route from Shepaug School – South Street to Nichols Hill to Painter Ridge to Davenport Road to South Street, appears to be the best alternative. Sheila and C.J. Kersten will meet with Joe again to discuss further.
- **Town Beach Parking Pass Rules:** Jenn presented the following proposed beach rules to the Commissioners for their review and input. It was agreed to publish them.

Welcome to Summer 2023!!

The town beach will officially open daily from 10am to 5pm on Saturday, June 17th 2023 through Labor Day.

****Please note, Memorial Day weekend through June 17th-weekends only****

To register for a summer season parking permit, you must be a resident of Washington (if you are renting, email us or physically bring in a copy of lease agreement).

To register, please visit:

<https://washingtondepotct.myrec.com>

Please note: Parking Permits must be purchased online and not at the town beach.

Once purchased online, bring attached beach regulation form to the Parks & Recreation office and pick up pass/sticker.

No one will be able to enter beach without pass/sticker.

Seniors over the age of 65 and First Responders will receive one parking pass at no charge and must obtain parking permits at the Senior Center.

Non-Residents may purchase a day pass at the beach or online.

If purchased online, pass MUST be picked up at Parks & Rec. office, M-F 94pm.

Please feel free to come to the Parks & Rec office if you need assistance purchasing online.

We are happy to help and guide you through the process!

Questions call 860-868-0735 Office

Hours: M-F 9am-4pm

Parks & Recreation office is located at the Legion Hall/Senior Center

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:28p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. The next meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene, Clerk