



## RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**When:** Tuesday June 18, 2020

**Where:** Zoom Call

Topic: Recreation Commission Meeting

Time: Jun 18, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87384655482?pwd=Wm1xb1lwK2xEEd3JNdzNFUDlzOXorUT09>

Meeting ID: 873 8465 5482

Password: 333223

### **Present**

Ryan Kane  
Anna McKeown  
Andy Dutton  
Jennifer Lutz  
Peter Hunter  
Paul Grasso  
Paul Boehm  
Casey Atkins

### **Not Present**

Linda Escobedo, Selectboard Liasion

Meeting called to order 7:04P

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 26, 2020**

1. Motion to approve by Peter Hunter, second by Paul Grasso. All in favor.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

None

### **APPOINTMENTS**



1. Peter Hunter (until next town meeting), Paul Grasso (April 2021, 2<sup>nd</sup> term), Casey Atkins (April 2022, 2<sup>nd</sup> term), Jennifer Lutz (June 2022, 1<sup>st</sup> term), Paul Boehm (until next town meeting)

## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Mr. Kane reviewed the programs that will be running starting this weekend including White Pond, Camp Three Rivers, Kaleidoscope Kids, and the Beede Center. Special events are cancelled and small programs are cancelled.
- Mr. Kane noted that we are opening facilities as the state's phases allow us to do so.

### Summer Camp

- a. Mrs. McKeown updated the commission on the plans for Camp Three Rivers including sites, program requirements, staffing, etc.
- b. The Emerson playground and basketball courts are closed for the summer to the public. The Emerson pool will be open to swimming for campers only.
- c. Paul B. asked if there is any additional insurance that is needed for camp. Mr.
- d. Mrs. Lutz asked about the process for checking in and temperature screenings in the mornings. Mrs. McKeown reviewed the plans for each site.
- e. Mr. Hunter asked for the Recreation Department to share the plans for the Camp COVID protocols with the Commission.

### White Pond

- a) Mr. Kane noted that all employees will be doing an at home screening before they come to work like all other employees, full time and part time, across all facilities.
- b) White Pond will only allow members to attend the beach. Guests, friends, and day passes will not be sold. White pond is on a pre-reservation system as well. There are 15 plots at the site that are available for reservation for 2 hour 45 min increments. That means that 45 families can visit the pond each day. You can reserve 4 days in advance. This upcoming weekend is sold out. There were some issues with people booking more than one spot or more than one reservation time per day and we made corrections and removed those reservations. Spots will not be available each day if groups do not sign up or show up.
- c) There has been negative feedback about the reservation system but we will continue to work out those kinks.
- d) Mr. Hunter asked for the Recreation Department to share the plans for the Pond with the Commission.
- e) Mrs. Lutz asked if there were regulations on how the bathrooms will get cleaned. Mr. Kane said yes, there are regulations including the products that should be used.
- f) Mrs. Lutz also asked if toys that are left will be available to use. Mr. Kane said no, everything that is left at the end of each day will be thrown out and users will be asked to throw out their own garbage, pack in pack out.

### Visitor Center



- a. Mr. Kane announced that the Visitor Center will open on Monday. It will be a soft opening that isn't announced so we can ease back into the space. Tours will happen at a later date.
- b. Mrs. McKeown noted that about 50% of the Visitor Center staff will not be coming back right now so Beth Williams is working to make adjustments to the schedule accordingly.
- c. Mrs. McKeown also noted that the Visitor Center renovations are done enough that Beth will be moving into the Visitor Center and she is very excited and grateful for the updates done by the Facilities Department.

#### Beede Center

- a. Mr. Dutton is hoping to open the Beede Center on Monday June 29<sup>th</sup>. Programs at the Center will be adjusted including swimming lessons and group exercise. Information on those changes will be sent out on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Staff has been in the office two days this week which has been great.
- c. The Center continues to send out information to members about updating their accounts, familiarizing themselves with the site and how to work through reservations so they are confident in using it when they want to register for programs.
- d. When the Center does open, there will be reduced numbers of guests allowed and reservations will be taken to enter. Memberships will go back to full pay when a person comes back into the center.
- e. The front desk will get a desk barrier installed but it will feel different not being able to socialize as easily but looking forward to making sure members feel safe. Maureen has been continuing to call members to check in and that has been well received.
- f. Group fitness online have run well and have been success. Personal trainers have been working with members virtually now.
- g. In terms of facility vendors, we are sending out RFP for cleaning vendors so we are hoping to get a good number of proposals to review. Other things to highlight, we were able to secure just over \$62K from the Sawyer Trust to help fund the HVAC renovations, hot water tanks, etc. The Center also installed three touch-less sink fixtures. Public Works has planted a few new trees around the Center.
- h. Mrs. Lutz asked if we may continue to offer online classes for those folks that may not be comfortable coming into a class. Mr. Dutton said that he is hoping to have a combo of offerings; in person and online.
- i. Mr. Kane noted that Kerry Lafleur from the Finance Department worked hard to help with the Sawyer Trust.

#### Public Parks

- a. Mr. Kane noted that the restrooms at Rideout Park are opened as are the parks. The playgrounds are also open as well as the tennis and basketball courts. The track is also getting used.
- b. Mr. Kane said that little league is operating again and he is working with the League to keep records of who is attending practices for contact tracing. The program has a COVID plan in place.



- c. Mr. Kane also noted that youth soccer has reached out and is looking to restart soon and will also need a COVID 19 plan to do so. In future phases, the ability to expand to games and such is a possibility but not happening now.

#### Emerson Park

- a. Mr. Kane made note that construction is still going to happen at the park which means that the splash pad will be closed this summer. The project is getting managed through Public Works.

#### **FACILITY UPDATES**

#### White Pond

- a. Mr. Kane noted that White Pond storm water management and ADA accessibility plans are still moving forward. Mr. Kane will let the Commission know when public hearings are scheduled.
- b. Mrs. Lutz made note that there was a foul smell at White Pond last weekend and someone said that the septic system at a neighbor's house overflowed. She asked about the validity of that. Mr. Kane said that he was not made aware of anything like that but that the blue/green algae can have a foul smell. Mr. Kane made everyone aware that the beach water gets tested weekly for E.coli and other bacteria so he assumes we would see levels change if that story was trust.

#### Gerow Property

- a. Mr. Kane shared the Gerow property plan. The estimated cost of the project is \$1.9M, there is currently \$1.2M available (FY20-21) and \$200K from CPC for FY20. The Town is hoping to receive another \$500K from CPC for the bathroom facility and connections to the BFT in FY21. That gets the funds to \$1.7M. Construction will be done in two phases. Mr. Kane noted that there will be discussion about when Gerow at the next Town Meeting and Mr. Kane will let the Commission know if a letter of support would be helpful in supporting the project. Mr. Kane is happy to share the plan with the Commission.
- b. Mr. Hunter asked what is going to be asked at the Town Meeting, what is the warrant? Mr. Kane said that the warrant will be about all capital projects which will include Gerow.
- c. Mrs. Atkins discussed questions about the funding and concerns that groups in town will be asking for a hold on all capital projects and that perhaps a letter from the Recreation Commission should provide a letter of support.

#### Emerson Pool

- a. Mr. Kane noted that the leak has been fixed and that we are hoping the pool will be able to open for summer camp.

#### Fall/Winter programming



- a. Mr. Kane noted that the Superintendent wants to have a conversation about supporting each other in the fall should the school schedule require more childcare needs. Traditional programs may also look different but we are confident that we can assure the community is getting programs.

**REPORTS FROM LIAISONS**

- a. Select Board- not present
- b. CPC- Paul Grasso: Mr. Grasso noted that the last meeting was earlier this week and the topic of funding of projects did come up. The chairmen will be sending out letters to each project leader as there has been push back on using funds that were already allocated for projects in the new climate.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

Next Meeting: August 11, 2020 7:00P on zoom.

Motion to end the meeting made by Peter Hunter. Second by Paul Grasso. All in favor.

Meeting adjourn at 8:27P.

*Minutes taken by Anna McKeown, Assistant Director of Recreation*