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Recreation Commission

Commissioners

Chairman-Peter Furia

Vice Chair-Bob Katilus

Treasurer-Tom Williams

Secretary-Theresa McNulty

Member-John Shea, Joe Floeck, Jessica Packer

Selectman Liaison

Peter Spagone, Jr.

Meeting Minutes April 29, 2021

All members in attendance. Additional attendees: Selectman Peter Spagone, Jr, DPW Director, John Haines, Jenn Pohl

Meeting opened at 7:07pm

Welcome to Jenn Pohl as our temporary employee. Discussion and review of job description as her guideline for prioritizing tasks going forward. Jenn will be getting together with DPW, Police, Fire, Accounting, to gather information & input as well as all sports groups. Will discuss with Town Admin/Selectmen liability and insurance needs for all sports organizations and teams that utilize town fields.

Review of meeting minutes of 3/25/21. Motion to accept made by Tom, 2nd by Joe, unanimous vote in favor.

Discussion of Field use/land use forms: should they be filled out for anyone wanting to use town fields? What about other town owned properties such as Town common and Sachem Rock? We will need to review these forms and include Selectmen in the discussion for liability and legal aspects. Copies of forms to be given to all members for review through email.

The Arts Council is seeking members. Nicole Kelleher has taken over as chair, and there are currently some new members on board as well. We would like to work collaboratively with them on events and activities for our community.

Treasurers' report: Currently we have 33,293. There has been an allocation and vote for funds for the repairs and expenses at Strong's Field for the season. No other bills or deposits were received.

John Shea presented an updated expense report for the season at Strong's Field. Originally we voted to approve 9,698. The amended amount is 9,099. Motion to accept this change and updated expense sheet made by Bob, 2nd by Joe, unanimous I favor.

John S reports that Strong's field is booked solid for the entire season.

John Haines has met with experts who do athletic surfaces, basketball courts to get estimates on the basketball courts and skating rink at Church St complex. The basketball courts are too badly damaged to be repaired. They would have to be completely removed and completely redone and that cost is extremely high. (over 100,000.) The surface at the skating rink area is salvageable, and could be used for 2 half courts as well as pickle ball. The current quote for resurface, repair is 25,658. We would then need to buy the equipment, and complete the courts, which is estimated at roughly 10,000. John Shea will get us quotes for the costs of completing the courts.

We will need to continue to discuss potential reuse of the current basketball court area and removal of those courts. DPW will be in charge of removal of the damaged areas.

John Haines, John Shea and members of Recreation Commission will attend the next Selectmen's meeting on Tuesday, May 11th, in order to apprise the Selectmen of the status and current issues with the courts and rink, and potential funding solutions for the repair and resurfacing at the former skating rink.

At this time, the Middle school collaboration is off the table due to the programs from Central School all being moved from Central School to Middle school to allow work to be done at Central School. We can pick up discussions once that work is complete.

Spring sports are all on track and ready to go for the coming season. Soccer and LaCrosse are working collaboratively on field use and scheduling, and all is working.

Security cameras at town fields, especially Belmont St, are over 10 years old, and only record to tape. The quality is poor. John Shea is going to speak to Security camera person look into what, if anything can be done to enhance the systems. Otherwise we need to discuss other options for better cameras.

Trash at all town fields is not picked up by the DPW. It is the responsibility of the teams and organizations to take care of their trash. There have been several complaints about overflowing barrels. Ideas for solutions should be discussed with organizations.

We are looking for ideas and input for a summer or fall community event – possibly to collaborate with other organizations as well. All members are welcome to bring ideas and suggestions to the next meeting for discussion.

Motion to adjourn made by Bob at 8:07, second by John S, unanimous vote in favor.

Next meeting to be Thursday, May 20th at 7pm Will be going back to the 3rd Thursday of each month for consistency.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa McNulty
Secretary