



RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

November 2, 2021

7:00 PM

Remote Zoom Meeting

Present: Nancy Corcoran, Commissioner; Christopher Hardy, Commissioner; Hema Santhanakrishnan, Commissioner; Steve Trimble, Commissioner; Joe Will, Commissioner; Melissa Rier, Recreation Director; Jeff Bergart, Resident.

7:05 PM Opening - Chris Hardy opened the meeting.

I. Regular Business

1. Review of meeting minutes from October.
 - a. Minutes as amended were accepted. Motion by Chris, seconded by Joe, passed unanimously, 4-0. (Steve arrived late).
2. Resident's Concerns
 - a. None
3. Reports:
 - a) *Fields and Facilities are still being rented at this time of year. The restrooms are closed and winterized, but there are portable toilets located around the park. Fall sports are concluding with field maintenance plans to begin soon. Jones Field was damaged by a truck turning around. The Pump Track is being used by the community.*
 - b) *Rail Trails*
The Trail Crosswalks - DPW needs to adjust the monitoring system. Corey York is the contact and Melissa will let him know. NARA Park bike and pedestrian lanes are still being worked on.
 - c) *Events*
The majority of events for the year are now complete. A few small events are still left for December. Monster Bash at the NARA Park Bathhouse was a huge success with 300 participants. A small Skate Park celebration was held with the Graviton band playing and Recreation staff grilling complementary food.
 - d) *Dog Park / Senior Park*
\$45,000 of the American Rescue Plan Acton Funds (ARPA) was dedicated to the Main Street site design. Jeff Bergart would like to form a committee on the overlap coordination of the projects.
 - e) *Community Preservation Committee*
 - *CPA Projects*
 - *NARA Sports Pavilion*

A contractor was chosen to complete construction of the South Building interior. Recreation is expecting to pay up to \$70,000 to bridge the gap between the bid and CPA funding.

- *Jones Playground Renovation*

Renovation is complete except for a few amenity and landscaping finishing touches currently being worked on. Melissa is in the process of trying to find a mason to install the family donated bricks.

- *Gardner Playground Renovation*

3D rendering of the entire park was finished. Recreation is waiting for the final playground quote.

Funding for this project includes:

- *CPA - \$100,000*
- *Gardner Friends - \$80,000*
- *State Earmark Funds - \$110,000*
- *ARPA - \$400,000*

At this time, a late spring playground installation is planned.

- *New CPA Applications*

- *Elm Street renovation - \$165,000*
- *Gardner Field extra amenities (benches, trees, bushes, flowers) - \$100,000*
- *Recreation Center Playground - \$75,000*

II. New/Special Business

4. Recreation Revolving Budget

Melissa reviewed the proposed FY23 budget.

5. Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP)

Melissa is the leader of the OSRP Town staff working group. At this time, the group is editing the previous goals within the Plan. The working group is planning a public forum inviting the community to communicate its needs and goals for the Town.

6. Student Volunteer of the Year Award Nomination

Melissa nominated Liam Lemke (13 year old) as Student Volunteer of the Year. Liam worked at most of the concerts and was the mascot at the dog parade event. Joe moved for Liam to receive the award while Nancy seconded. The nomination was unanimously approved, 5-0.

III. Consent Items

8. Field and Facility Pricing for 2022

- a. Melissa originally proposed a \$25 increase per facility, but the Commissioners recommended a percentage increase. Melissa then proposed a 10% increase for the various facilities.
- b. Steve motioned for the price increase as recommended. Chris seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0), stating that it will take effect barring any objections within the next 10 business days.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm. Motion by Hema, seconded by Chris, passed unanimously, 5-0.

Upcoming Recreation Commission Meetings

Date	Time	Location
December 8, 2021	7:00 PM	Zoom
January 4, 2022	7:00 PM	Zoom
February 1, 2022	7:00 PM	Zoom