

Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting — Tuesday, July 14, 4:30 pm  
Zoom

LWV Observer - Kay Rieper

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Chip Osborne. All members were present. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

### **New Business**

Chip suggested having a work session every third or fourth meeting.

### **Reports**

Jaime Bloch, Assistant Superintendent, reported that they are in week 2 of summer programs including some sports, arts and crafts, and summer fun for 3 1/2 to 6 year olds. There is also strength and conditioning for high school kids morning and evening and some sports clinics. The numbers have been okay, and they have collected about one third of the revenue of a usual summer which she feels is good. Under Phase III Step 1, various baseball and softball leagues have started games under strict covid compliant guidelines. Youth football can have practice, and she has gotten approval to hire a fourth tennis instructor. As far as fall programs go, she is waiting to see what happens with schools, etc.

Peter James, Superintendent, reported that the Rink Study Committee is meeting next Wednesday. He, Jason Silva, and Becky Cutting, met with the consultants who have been hired. Members of the Board plan to be at the site evaluation with the consultants when that takes place.

He reported that \$25,000 has been collected in beach revenues so far split between the general fund and rec. and park. He is up to a full staff for the first time. \$30,000 in unused salaries and \$12,500 in unused expenses was given back to the town. He has \$5000 to purchase trash bags.

Repairs are needed at the Community Center, and some railings at Crocker Park need repair. Greg has been working on irrigation, prepping the baseball infields, and fertilizing for the first time.

The restrooms are cleaned every day and a deep cleaning is done on Sunday. They are open till 4:00 pm. So far they have only had to shut down beach parking (to out-of towners) 3 or 4 times due to high tides causing crowded beaches. A complaint about trash at Hobbs playground turned out to be 3 trash bags of beer cans, which brings up the issue of whether this would have happened if there was a carry in carry out policy with no barrels.

### **Budget inequities**

The Department gave back to the town \$125,000 (about 14% of the budget). The Board requested money from the Finance Committee to fix the tennis courts, the parking lot and \$24,000 for an infield grooming machine. This was the only money they received back, and the tennis courts and parking lots go unrepaired. There was no thank you or acknowledgement of this by the Finance Committee. Over the past two years, \$225,000 has been given back to the town. The Board feels they have been treated unfairly.

### **Shattuck Fund**

Chip asked for suggestions at the next meeting for the use of the Rec and Park department's \$45,000 allocation from the Shattuck Fund which is earmarked for items that are not a normal budget expense. Ideas included addition of one person boats to the sailing fleet and fixing up the Stramski house.

### **Chandler Hovey Inner Harbor Pavilion**

This has been postponed till after Labor Day. \$4000 has been paid to the architect and \$26000 is left to complete the pavilion

## **Requests**

It was approved for Pleon Yacht Club to have storage for 20 trailers for a scaled back junior race week with the usual fee waived.

Several wedding requests for small ceremonies were approved. One request for an 85 guest wedding serving food at Chandler Hovey was denied.

Brian Wheeler asked for permission to provide a small band entertainment four weekend evenings at Devereux Beach (through the Neck Run Cafe permit and insurance). He will have to fill out all the Covid 19 forms and adhere to the protocols as the various sports teams have had to do.

The next meeting is tentatively for July 28 at 4:30.  
The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.