



OBSERVER REPORT

Recreation and Parks Commission
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:30 pm
LWVM Observer - Kay Rieper

The meeting was called to order by Derek Norcross. All members were present except Chip Osborne. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Family Fund - Hobbs Playground

Sara Riffel and Anne Foley from the Family Fund presented a capital campaign mailer, which will be sent to every household in Marblehead, to raise money for a new playground at Hobbs. The equipment is designed primarily for children 5 and under, but is strong enough for adults. It will be handicap accessible and have a pebbleflex flooring. They have raised \$50,000 already, and need \$300,000 to complete the project. They hope to break ground in spring of 2022. The Board was enthusiastic about the project, and although they can't make a donation, they thought maybe they could buy a piece of equipment using the revolving fund.

Tennis Courts

An attendee brought up the tennis court usage. The Commission is planning to monitor the usage of the courts this summer with electronic scheduling. The details are still to be worked out. The high school tennis courts will be open to the public during non-school hours.

Facilities

Peter reported on progress at the Stramski house. The rear deck has been finished and the railing ordered, and the work on the front accessible walkway is progressing nicely. Brush and trees have been cleared near the lower parking lot.

The baseball infields are being prepared. Spring sports seasons start after April vacation and continue until July 3.
Fertilizing of fields is underway.

The Community Center parking lot will be lined on April 18 (Sunday). Rain date April 25.

Two dead trees will be removed from the Nature Center by Iron Tree at a cost of \$3200. This was too big a project to do in house.

Peter will go to New Hampshire to look at a shed for Devereux parking lot.

The toilets at Gatchell's will be replaced with in house labor and new locks will be installed to prevent vandalism.

Two hires for seasonal maintenance were approved.

Recreation

Spring programs including Coach Karl and T-Ball are fully booked, and summer program registration is up three times from 2019.

Four summer hires were approved.

Correspondence

Several weddings, a birthday party, and a Montessori workshop at various parks were approved.

The next meeting will be in two weeks