



OBSERVER REPORT

Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting - Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020, 5:30
LWW Observer - Kay Rieper

The meeting was called to order by chairman, Chip Osborne. Linda Rice-Collins, Jerry Tucker, Peter James and Jaime Bloch attending. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Representatives from the Sustainable Marblehead Tree Committee presented a proposal about donating trees to the parks— logistics, maintenance, recognition trees, location suggestions, replacement costs, etc. There is a committee consisting of Linda Rice Collins, Peter James of Rec. and Park, and Pat Bickford, Katherine Bradford and Jim Harshbarger from the Sustainable Marblehead Tree Committee. February and March are the ideal times to purchase and plant trees so there is time to plan.

New Business

There has been a request for increased hours for the pickle ball courts. The courts can't be used during school hours. They will be locked until 1:30. A request to convert a court at Vets and one at Seaside to a mixed-use court would have to be approved by the tennis community including the JV tennis team. Perhaps the backboard at Seaside could be converted to one or two pickle ball courts.

Programs

Jaime brought the Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) contract up for approval. It was approved.

The Scarecrow Stroll at Stramski's on October 24 had 500 participants. The girls' field hockey team were invaluable volunteers and helped maintain covid protocols. There were 60 scarecrows. In the future she is contemplating a snowless snowman event. Fall programs have been successful and will end by Thanksgiving followed by some programs up to Christmas. For the outside programs in colder weather she has gotten wind wraps, tents, canopies, lighting and winter gear for coaches.

Facilities

Peter has ordered 4 tarps for Seaside at a cost of \$5800 to be installed by mid December. At this time, there isn't money for tarps at Gatchell's or the Vet's softball field. He has purchased a storage unit for \$5800 to replace a rental space on Vine Street which will save money in the long run.

There have been donations of \$1500 from Flag Football and \$2000 from Dave Haley which will go into the Field Donations account.

The restrooms have been closed and the irrigation systems have been blown out. The parking lot at the Community Center will be paved soon.

Pavilions

\$350,000 is needed to repair the Chandler Hovey pavilions which are practically falling down. Chip will be in contact with Jim Nye about how to fund this (possible capital fund raising, Shattuck fund for \$30,000).

Hydration stations

This discussion was tabled to the next meeting which will be on November 24 at 5:30.