



OBSERVER REPORT

Recreation and Parks Commission: September 21, 2020 via Zoom
LWVM Observer - Kay Rieper

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

New Business

Derek mentioned that the median strip on Brookhouse Drive (which Rec and Park maintains) is being destroyed by pipes stored there during road construction. Peter will check with Water and Sewer and the Highway Department about this.

Jerry brought up issues around the popular pickle ball courts—mainly the hours play is allowed: 2:30 to dusk on weekdays (teachers and some kids are in the school, 8 am to dusk on Saturday, and 9 am to dusk on Sunday. Signage is now clear.

Photos were shown of encroachments from Chestnut Street and Harborview onto Seaside Park. These will be addressed further when survey is completed.

Programs

Jaime reported that they are in the second week of fall programs and very busy. It was approved for her to hire two Recreation Instructor positions.

It was also approved to extend the SUP contract (which ends Sept. 30) through the first of December so they can have some fall programs.

Facilities

Peter just got updated drawings from the architect for the Chandler Hovey pavilion which will go out to bid.

Watering will be cut back in the cooler weather, but the fields must be ready for the later fall athletic season. By next week, the soccer and field hockey fields will be lined.

One worker has been “lost” to the Water and Sewer Department. It was approved to hire a groundskeeper who moved back to town and previously worked for the town.

The basketball hoop at Gatchell’s has been repaired. The “leaning” tree at Gatchell’s has been fixed with help from the Tree department.

An issue with a fake recreation worker (with an “official” jacket) who has been intimidating mostly tourists this summer will be addressed.

The Stramski house painting is almost done. It was suggested that the area between the boat racks be aerated. Board members complimented the overall appearance of Stramski’s with a lot of clearing out of brush, and hopefully more to be done in the future.

Requests

A representative from Bike Marblehead asked about putting in a pump track. Similar ideas have been tried before with little success because of a lack of space. A group of parents has been working on trails on the school property on Green Street near the Community Store.

The Frostbiters group asked to store five to ten lasers at Riverhead Beach from mid-September through mid-November as the Eastern Yacht Club can’t let non-members store them there because of Covid. This was approved for no charge.

A request by Brenda Till for a bench in memory of her father by the football will go to the School Committee. Rec and Parks can help facilitate this when approved.

The Board supported the idea for a Storybook Trail by the Hammond Nature Center although the land involved needs approval of the Conservation Commission. Rec and Park only has jurisdiction over the building, not the surrounding land.

A request from Judith Black for a thank you plaque for the bike racks was okayed with the Commission having final approval on the dimensions and style of the sign.

The meeting was adjourned.