



OBSERVER REPORT

Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting
Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:30 pm
Community Center Dining Room
LWVM Observer - Kay Rieper

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

New Business

A motion was approved to accept a bid of \$75,000 for resurfacing the tennis courts at Seaside, including the basketball court and fencing repair.

Appearances

Reece Dahlberg presented a proposal asking that the Board host a speaker to increase the awareness and sensitivity of the recreation programs coaches towards transgender athletes. The Board approved this, and Jaime will work with Reece on the implementation.

Open Space Plan and Recreation 10-year update

Chip went over the past ten years of the Open Space plan and pointed out how the Department has reached its goals from 10 years ago including expanding recreation opportunities and the sailing programs, upgrading the playground at Devereux, making the parks more attractive and improving maintenance, renovating the restrooms at Gatchell's (twice), and improving recycling and trash removal. The Commission will meet with Becky Cutting probably at the next meeting to go over a plan for the next 10 years. The needs of the athletic fields (including the school department's) for 2022 and a 5-year plan will be addressed. The Shattuck Fund has been used judiciously to pay for the fence around Memorial Park, renovations of the Stramski house, and in the future, the website, signage and promotion.

Budget

The Board went over a copy of the proposed budget which is level funded. It was brought up that, with the loss of their clerk, the Superintendent and Recreation Director have had to take on more administrative functions which impacts the amount of work they can do to benefit the town citizens. There will be a meeting with the Fin Com liaison on December 6 at 7:30 on Zoom.

Recreation

Jaime presented an idea for a program Dec. 17 at Crocker Park—Carols, Cocoa and Cookies at Crocker. Basketball is in full swing, and outdoor programs are continuing as long as the weather holds.

Parks

A proposal to fix the basketball nets in the gym was approved.
Storm damage was assessed and repaired.

Correspondence

A request to hold meetings once a week for an outreach youth group in one of the smaller rooms at the Community Center was approved with a charge of \$5 a week as a non-profit fee.
Two wedding requests for next summer at Chandler Hovey were approved.