

OBSERVER REPORT

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 7:00 pm via Zoom LWV Observer - Kay Rieper

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

After a long discussion about the possibility of asking for funding for a part time clerk for Peter and Jaime to free them up for more productive work for the town, a motion was made and approved to present the Finance Committee with a level funded budget. The meeting will be next Monday, and Rec and Park will probably be presenting about 8 p.m.

Peter reported that summer operations went well in spite of lots of rain. He will provide figures to see if the additional parking revenue at Riverhead Beach was worth having the attendant there.

Chip ran through the list of open projects that are being worked on:

- Seaside tennis courts: a bid has been accepted and work will begin in the spring. \$65,000 will come fro the town and \$10,000 from the Revolving Fund.
- The website is out to bid. Bids are due December 10.
- The basketball hoop at the Community Center has been fixed.
- Work will proceed on the Stramski house plumbing and electrical this winter with the help of students at Essex Aggie. There is a permit for the handicap accessible ramp.
- Roofing contractors for the Nature Center are being pursued.
- Reynolds Playground access at Meadow Lane will be cleared out by the fence.
- Hobbs Playground irrigation probably has to go out to bid.

Park Update

- Peter reported that the dips in the outfield at Seaside have been fixed and sodded as well as some sodding at Hopkins Field. The turf blankets will go on soon.
- There is a problem with trash and litter at the end of Commercial Street. He will add a sign citing a \$300 fine for littering.

Recreation Update

- Jaime reported on a planned free singalong family event on December 17 at Crocker Park. The Landing will sponsor and provide hot chocolate and cookies.
- Girls' basketball has started. In February she will start registration for summer programs.

The memo of understanding between the School Department and Rec and Parks has been signed by the School Committee and will be signed by Rec. and Park. This memo is dated before the Brown School opened, and Rec and Park is not responsible for landscaping at this time.

Chip reported that he will be stepping down from the Commission (after 20 years) in February as he will no longer be a resident of Marblehead.