



OBSERVER REPORT

Recreation and Parks Meeting
Tuesday, June 1, 6:30 pm
LWW observer - Kay Rieper

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Chip Osborne. All members were present except the Superintendent who is on vacation.

After meeting with several members of the Board, an informational proposal for a comprehensive website was presented to the whole Board by MH Design to give all the members an idea of what a dedicated website might include and what it would cost. This included photos and drone video of the parks and beaches, information about recreation programs, information about staff—all to be correlated with the mission statement and brand (about 30 - 35 pages) as well as management of the site and social media. It would also include search engine authorization so that if someone googles “Chandler Hovey Park”, this website would come up. Because it would cost over \$15,000, a final proposal would have to go out to bid to three vendors, and hopefully could be implemented by the fall. This would be paid for by money from the revolving fund.

New Business

The bathrooms at Gatchell’s weren’t opened this spring because there wasn’t money to clean them with Covid protocols, and baseball didn’t want to take it on.

The large mower has been in a repair shop in New Hampshire for two months. This has put mowing behind schedule. A new \$75000 mower may be needed in the next couple of years.

Because of vacations and transitions in the town Finance Department, bills, refunds for recreation programs, and onboarding of new hires is behind schedule. They have asked departments to onboard their hires themselves. This is a problem for Rec and Park because they are the only department with 50+ hires for the summer—lifeguards, sailing instructors, beach maintenance,

playground instructors, etc. They lost their clerk two years ago because of budget cuts, and Jaime can't do both jobs effectively. Jaime and Chip will meet with Jason later this week.

There are now signs at Seaside tennis courts explaining the online permitting which is up and running. The other tennis courts at the Vets and high school will be open after the school tennis season is over July 3, but these courts are under the jurisdiction of the School Department. The permitting was put in place to monitor usage of the courts during the summer.

The outlook for summer programs is looking great providing Jaime can get the staff in place. She had one new hire for sailing which was approved.

There was a brief discussion about returning to in person meetings. The meeting in two weeks will involve many outside people (pickleball and Stramski's) so it was decided to have one more meeting on zoom.