

MINUTES

Westfield Recreation Commission

March 14, 2022, 7:30pm

- OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT
- ROLL CALL - all present
- FLAG SALUTE
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES, February 7, 2022, meeting - Amy Berman made a motion, Liz Chacko seconded. All approved.

- COMMISSION CHAIR - Jenn Gilman - So glad to have an in-person meeting!

- PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING - Andrew Stilluffsen 667 Fourth Avenue. Would like to offer JORBA services to help with the trails. Jamie Meiselman is a member of the Bike board and would like the Recreation Commission to volunteer at the Tour Westfield by giving bike tours of the town. He thinks he may be able to incorporate bike trail tours into this event, he will circle back and let us know what should be done. Tour de Westfield is scheduled for June 12.

- TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT - Scott Katz - Working with the Human Relations committee and wants all to attend the Walk the chalk at Jefferson on March 16 beginning at 3:05. Windsor Park Playground money was approved, hope for a quick install.

- BOARD of EDUCATION LIAISON REPORT - Mike Bielen - EIS is still in process; the parking assessment report was reviewed. Westfield Soccer is going to meet regarding using Elm St. field as a practice field, soccer would like to add irrigation and also a maintenance plan. Resurfacing the Elm St. tennis courts is being added to the BOE facilities agenda.

- DIRECTOR's REPORT - Don Bogardus - Office is busy with playground camp, summer programming and Pool. Heather Re won the Association Service Award and Paul Checchio (Head Pool Maintenance) won Employee of the Year!

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **POOL: Tony Stewart** - \$99 fee for birthday parties, will be able to register 45 days in advance. No holiday weekends! Swim lessons will begin at 8:30(used to be 9) End of March, new member packets will go out.
- **PARKS - Monica Bergin** - Green team is looking for volunteers for their park clean up on May 1. Please contact WestfieldGreenteam@westfieldnj.gov if you are available. The Green team is also hosting an Earth Day celebration on April 22 at the South side train station. There is a Kean University Capstone project going on in Tamaques Park to identify the many species both invasive and noninvasive. Final report will be in May. Stone dust was added to Brightwood Park trails, gardens are being planted and volunteers are busy removing invasive plants. Pond maintenance will begin on Brightwood, Mindowaskin and Tamaques soon. New Tennis rules will be communicated ahead of 4/1 launch. Westfield Hockey will be cleaning up Gumbert Playground and woods on April 2. Next committee meeting is March 23.
- **FIELDS: Russ Howell** - MEMORIAL - GSLW JOINT project is going full speed ahead. EIS proposal meeting scheduled for March 23 will be postponed until the following week. Good dialog at the neighborhood meeting.
- **FINANCE: Amy Berman** - copies of trust account & user fees distributed. The difference is due to playground camp timing. No expenses yet for Winter programs. Looking for definitions for use of money from Scott Olsen & Jim Gildea.
- **PROGRAMS: Jeff Perrella/Linda Johnson** - 45% full for playground camp. Programs at Memorial will not happen this year. Volleyball, Field Hockey league which 2 teams will travel and compete are new for spring. Linda would like to give a shout out to the teachers that coach the programs at the Middle and HS level. They recruit and encourage the kids and will always agree to coach.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ❖ Tennis/Pickleball Court Reservations - Don Bogardus waiting on the signs from DPW, hoping to roll out by April 1.
- ❖ Refund Fees - 5% of program will not be refunded with a minimum of \$5.00 due to administrative fees. There of course will be exceptions (cancelled program, doesn't make team etc.)

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ FOBP request for plant sale pick up- Great Swamp Watershed is having a plant sale and would like Brightwood Park to be a pickup location on April 30. Jeff Perrella made a motion to approve, Ron Feldman seconded. All approved.
- ❖ Ultimate Frisbee tournament May 28-29 at Tamaques & Sid Fey - 175 active kids in grades 3-12. Ron Feldman made a motion to approve, Russ Howell seconded. All approved
- ❖ Memorial Tree - Don Bogardus is going to speak with Greg O'Neill at DPW and we will revisit.
- ❖ Fishing Derby - May 7 at Mindowaskin. Going to work with Westfield Police. Going to stock the pond, prizes and also fly-fishing lessons by an Olympic fly fisherman.

CORRESPONDENCE: All Correspondences were e-mailed to the Commission.

Meeting adjourned 8:32 pm

Dates to Remember:

Scheduled Commission Meetings - 7:30pm

Monday, April 4, 2022

Monday, May 2, 2022

Monday, June 6, 2022

Monday, July 11, 2022

Monday, September 12, 2022

Monday, October 3, 2022

Monday, November 7, 2022

Monday, December 5, 2022