

## Recreation Commission Minutes, January 12, 2022

### Attendees

Julie Halloran – Recreation Commission  
Robin Steele– Recreation Commission  
Mike O’Donnell– Recreation Commission  
Heidi Trockman– Recreation Commission  
Ron Richter– Recreation Commission  
Mike Rosenberg – The Bedford Citizen  
Mark Pearson - Pickleball Enthusiast  
Bopha Malone – Select Board Liaison  
Amy Hamilton – Recreation Director

- Amy read the remote participation script required by the town for virtual meetings
- Roll call performed by Robin; all commissioners in attendance
- Review previous minutes, one grammatical correction noted by Robin
- Motion to approve minutes of December 1, 2021 with correction by Julie Halloran, seconded by Mike O’Donnell - Approved 3-0-2
- Summer Adventures Discussion
  - Change to salary schedule , no wages less than minimum wage
  - Overall this will increase salaries by \$40K, will impact “profit.”
  - Enrollment was high last summer was it an anomaly or a trend
  - Transportation bid is outstanding may want to revisit fees but at this point Amy feels low risk – Amy budgeted same increase as previous years
  - Adventures Away has its own budget, no discussion required at this point
  - Discussed fees and decided to increase them by \$25 per person per session
  - Ron R made a motion to increase fees by \$25 per person per session, seconded by Mike O’Donnell - Approved 5-0-0
  - There was no Adventures Away in 2021 - no venues available – planning for it to return for 2022
  - We will follow town/state guidelines regarding Covid protocol
  - Adventures Away will be priced at cost plus admin fees
  - Tennis is also out to bid as it exceeds the threshold
  - Plan is for swim lessons to be the same format as in 2021
- SBP
  - Matt Mulroney (Director) not returning
  - Posted on SchoolSpring and other places for Director and other staff
  - Risk of not enough guards – fall back may be just to use it for SA but would have to address the financial burden of about \$20K keep it open for SA
  - Plan is to keep the same format and same operating model as 2021 for 2022
  - Rates for lifeguards is decent – we don’t feel the pay is the issue
  - Recruiting very challenging – this is an ongoing issue and risk to the operating model
  - Life guard training was discussed – feeling is that is not the issue plenty of opportunities for training
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- Winter programs
  - Good enrollment, but some recent drops likely due to Covid spike
  - Drops mostly in youth programs
  - Small group training virtual positive feedback from Robin
  - Winter is quieter - no ski program, no youth center, no police league , no refs
  - Trying to understand what programs would appeal to the middle schoolers going forward
  - Discussed more programming during week to offset kids going away for weekends
- Kids' club
  - Consistent enrollment
  - Below pre pandemic enrollment but everything is on track
  - We receive \$18K per month from state to offset losses from pandemic
  - Kids' club is fully staffed, but staffing fluctuates frequently so almost always recruiting
- Pickle ball
  - Looking to prioritize and formalize support
  - If a location for dedicated pickle ball courts is identified, we will determine if the CPC will fund or if rec funds are also required financially
  - We agreed there is high demand
  - At the recent CPC meeting there was a request for pickle ball – dedicated courts
  - Next step is a discussion with Fields Partnership
  - Center of town for school use and accessibility nice, but any location that works to not slow it down would be strongly considered
  - 4 pickle ball courts equals the size of one tennis court
  - We all agree we are in support
  - Mark shared his list of 10 characteristics of a site that will be discussed at Fields Partnership
  - Amy will let us know if she needs additional support
- Revolving fund
  - No reconciliation from Finance Dept since June
  - Lower quarterly KC charge expected because of changes in policy
  - End of December 2021: \$564K balance
  - Very frustrated with finance on the lack of an update
  - Bopha will look into status and convey frustration
  - We will request insights into what costs are posted into Revolving Fund (quarterly charges) from Finance
- Other Discussion
  - Plan to bring junior summer stock program back
  - Next meeting Feb 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00
- Ron Richter made a motion to adjourn seconded by Heidi Trockman – Approved 4-0-0 9 ( one Commissioner had left prior)