

Town of Pembroke
Recreation Commission
100 Center St.
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Pembroke Recreation Commission

Minutes of Meeting of July 13, 2022

Present: Acting Director Jessica Fulmine, Eric Hurt, Ginger Comeau, Rachel Quinlan, Tim Folan, Nicole Pedro, Grant Nickerson, with George Gray arriving at 7:41.

Guests: Town Manager William Chenard and Selectboard Member Becky Colletta

Meeting opened @ 7:36 PM

Discussion of State of the Recreation Dept:

Recreation Commission members were joined by Town Manager William Chenard and Selectboard Member Becky Colletta to discuss the current state of the Recreation Board, and the general frustration shared by members at not being to effectively make a positive impact in assisting the Recreation Dept. Mr. Chenard shared that he feels that the 1.5 years will be challenging as the Recreation Dept transitions into a new space and develops new programming (assuming that the vote to commence with construction will pass).

The opening for the position as Director of Recreation Department will be posted in October, with the expectation that the job will be filled in about 5 weeks.

With school beginning at the end of August, the after school program will continue to be held on school grounds. Currently Bryantville elementary is fulfilling that role.

A discussion of the potential for growth of the Recreation Dept including possible additional programming once the Community Center is completed. All present agreed that the 1st year is expected to be a "ramp up" year, in which it will be critical to educate residents about the programs and benefits available to townspeople through the Recreation Dept. Potential programming includes: pickleball, volleyball, use of walking track, dances, drama club, birthday party rental. Commissioners believe that working with a liaison to the town will aide in maximizing generating community interest and involvement.

Mr. Chenard provided a current update of the status of the Community Center project:

- Planning for the anticipated building of the Community Center has continued
- Multiple bids from virtually all of trades needed on the Community Center project have been accepted and are being reviewed. All subcontractor bids are due Aug 10 at 1pm. All general contractor bids are due Aug 17 by 1pm.
- While expected building cost per square foot remains up from the original 4.75/ sq.ft, rates appear to be coming down.
- The current bond rate is 1.85%, which is exceptionally low.

Outreach opportunities to provide education to the community:

- Use of websites, including the Friends of the Community Center page as well as the Recreation Dept. home page clarify the role of the Recreation Dept. and to highlight why the Dept is so needed in town.
- Currently, Town Administrators anticipate hosting 2 open forums to provide information to residents and answer questions re: the Community Center project. It is currently anticipated that the first meeting will be at Town Hall, either 8/2 or 8/9 at 6pm, and the second will be held at the Library 8/23 at 6pm.

Discussion of Magoun Improvements:

A discussion of the improvements necessary at the Magoun field has been tabled for this meeting due to time constraints.

Discussion of Potential Space for Recreation:

As previously covered during the discussion of the State of Recreation, school grounds will continue to host the Recreation Dept After School program. Acting Director Jessica Fulmine will be provided with a cell reception booster due to poor cellular reception in the Bryantville building.

New Business:

Acting Director Jessica Fulmine reported that on the Summer Program staffing shortage that is requiring her to fulfill multiple roles.

Acting Director Jessica Fulmine reported on the extreme heat's impact on the temperature in the school buildings. She will work with school custodian to attempt to secure fans for the classrooms.

Adjournment: 9:40 pm

VOTE: Motion to close the meeting was made by Rachel Quinlan, seconded by Tim Folan. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Rachel Quinlan