

Recreation Commission Meeting
2/24/2021
Zoom Meeting

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: March 11, 2021
TIME: 2:30 PM

Commission Attendees:

- Officers: Anthony Ferrante (chair), Marsha Semuels (vice chair), Cortney Eldridge (secretary), David Kane (liaison to Community Preservation Commission (CPC))
- Members: Paul Cowing, Anne Helgen, Theresa O'Connor, Melissa Hart, Mary Bradley

Town Attendees: Jon Marshall (Assistant Town Administrator), Brandon Fitts (Assistant Recreation Director), Heidi Barberio

5:34pm call to order

Review and approve minutes from 2/10/2021

Approved unanimously: Paul, Anthony, Cortney, David, Anne, Melissa, Theresa

Statement from Anthony, Recreation Commission Chair

Champions Soccer School: Brian Bisceglia-Kane

- Would like to offer 2021 summer programming at PQ for 11 weeks (9am-3pm)
- Rigid regulations: last year, groups did not interact with any other groups (neither campers nor counselors); no indoor space (i.e., outdoor only and must go home/cancel in inclement weather)
 - 10 kids and two counselors per group; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th (or sometimes 5th and 6th were combined depending on numbers)
 - 55-60 campers on site (in a typical year, we'd have 130+ campers)
 - Made use of the playground at times/shared with community
- Current plan (for summer 2021)
 - Hoping to operate similarly to last year (no indoor space/using fire dept for emergencies; small group sizes)
 - Hoping to offer kindergarten
 - Hope to make use of the playground at times/shared with community
 - Proposed dates June 21st through September 3rd

Motion: Recreation Department approves issuing a field-use permit to Champions Soccer School for 11 weeks beginning June 21st, with stipulations that the camp follows state, local, federal public health guidelines. Registration will not exceed 60 campers for the weeks of August 23rd and August 30th.

Approved unanimously: Paul, Anthony, Cortney, David, Anne, Marsha, Theresa, Melissa, Mary

Tennis Reservation System: One court or two? Discussion

- If a coach wanted to book time (like, a full court for a period of time), they should go through the Recreation Department; if an individual wanted to book (and hire a coach), that individual could book the court
- Group tennis lessons are only available through Belmont Recreation Department
- Reservations would be for all open hours; \$5/hour; Belmont residents only (but they can bring out-of-town guests)

- Is there a way to capture data about people who are waiting (if we reserve two courts and have two open courts, how long do people wait for the open court?)
- Did not have a waitlist for the time slots; usually people would call to ask about booking if the desired time was full

Motion: Expand the tennis court reservations to two courts beginning spring 2021.

Approved: Paul, Anthony, Cortney, Anne, Marsha, David, Melissa, Theresa

Denied: Mary

Assets Inventory – Overall Park Planning: David

Background: The CPC asked David to come back to the Recreation Commission to understand what might be on the horizon for CPC projects

- Timeline: about next five years
- Can we do field rehabs using CPC money? Yes
- Three playgrounds that will need to be done (soon): Underwood, Payson Park, Chenery
- Fields: Town Field, Pequossette (PQ) Park, Winn Brook, High School (owned by school; field updates are funded with HS project currently underway)
- Tennis courts: Winn Brook, PQ Park, Grove Street, (two covered by modulars at Chenery; expect these to be available once HS project is done and upper middle moves over/modulars are removed)
- Swimming pool: Underwood
- Can we evaluate/look at/use the McClean property that was recently stabilized? Conservation Commission owns the use of this space. Perhaps a joint meeting in the future?
- Bike path (coming up; state will pay for a considerable amount of this but there's still a lot left)
- Next steps
 - David to take this list to the CPC and get more guidance/direction from them.
 - Jon to find whether there's an "open space and recreation plan" somewhere in the town and how out of date it is.
 - Do we do a master plan?
 - See if we could have a joint meeting with the Conservation Committee

Next meetings

- March 10th 5:30pm (Underwood Pool)
- March 24th 5:30pm (Summer Plan)

Meeting adjourned 7:13pm.