

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: October 15, 2020

TIME: 9:23 AM

**Recreation Commission Meeting**

9/8/2020

Zoom Meeting

**Commission Attendees:**

- Officers: Anthony Ferrante (chair), David Kane (liaison to CPC), Marsha Semuels (vice chair), Cortney Eldridge (secretary)
- Members: Anne Helgen, Mary Bradley, Marsha Semuels, Melissa Hart, Theresa O'Connor (not yet sworn in)

Town Attendees: Jon Marshall, Heidi Barberio, Brandon Fitts

5:33 pm call to order

**Recreation Commission business**

Anthony would like to do another term as chair: David nominates Anthony as chair for another David, Anthony, Mary, Anne, Cortney, Marsha,

Cortney secretary: in favor: Anne, Marsha, Mary, David, Melissa, Anthony, Cortney

Marsha vice chair: in favor: Anne, Mary, David, Cortney, Marsha, Melissa, Anthony

David CPC liaison: in favor: David, Anne, Mary, Cortney, Marsha, Melissa, Anthony

New commission members: Paul Cowing (not in attendance), Theresa O'Connor; not (yet) sworn in

Recommendation: create orientation package – org chart, what we're responsible for, etc.

Brandon to spearhead this

**Summer wrap up: Brandon**

9 weeks of summer programming

- 6 weeks of this was licensed summer camp program at Wellington
  - 50 kids per week
  - 14 staff per week
  - Budgeted \$71k in expenses
  - Spent \$57k; brought in \$62k
- 3 half-day weeks unlicensed when school start date was pushed back; at Town Field
  - 20-30 kids per week
  - Spent \$3k; brought in \$7.5k
- Typically we'll have close to 100 children in programming (and other programming besides); this summer was obviously different

Other summer programs

- Super Soccer Stars, Archery, other niche programs
- Tomi Olson wrapped up summer concert series
- Permitted out fields to HS soccer clinic
- Champions was successful; ran two-week extension after the regular summer season; wrapping up this week

**Fall Programs: Brandon**

- Fall registration is open – a number of programs are sold out already
- All fall programs will be taking place at Underwood Pool (on pool deck) and at Payson Park

- S.P.O.R.T. programs should open up
- Partnered with Medford for a fishing program
- Possible opportunity: Fresh Pond Association
- Habitat is undergoing a restructuring and may be open to a partnership with the Recreation Department

**Follow-ups from previous meetings:**

- Modular update: Water department is looking to purchase (and use) these
  - Recreation Department won't be using those now, but may be opportunities in the future
- Belmont Planning Committee: was put on hold due to COVID; may start moving forward in October

**Field and Updates: Jon**

- Permitting to youth organizations and HS
- Soccer, baseball, lacrosse all have a delayed start to their season
- Groups must be smaller this year
- Space per person must be larger this year
- Must keep groups within cohorts
- Groups are requesting additional signage (e.g., during games – there can only be 1 other adult in the area, etc.)
- Reviewed COVID-related signs that Recreation Department made (they look great)

**Court updates: Brandon**

- Pilot program: Two of the courts at each of the locations (PQ, Grove, Winn Brook) are reservable (\$5.00 for residents; \$10.00 for non-residents) and the other courts are drop-in
- Resident feedback (Donna Ruvolo) – strongly encourage we do not charge for court use; would like them to remain accessible for all and charging a fee discourages certain audiences from using public courts
- Resident feedback (Maryann Scali) – agrees with Donna and do not think charging for them is the right approach
- Clarified that only two of the four at each location are reservable; if a “reservable” court is not reserved/in use, it is available to use
- Reservations are in one-hour blocks
- Suggestions: cap the number of sessions each individual is able to reserve
- Requiring registrations will allow us to better monitor use of the courts

Motion: Recreation Commission moves to implement the right for Belmont residents to reserve one tennis court at each of the three locations, at \$5.00 per hour.

Approve: David, Mary, Theresa, Melissa

Deny: Cortney, Anne, Anthony, Marsha

An even split; Recreation Commission continued discussion on one vs two courts, other pros/cons of approaches.

Motion: Recreation Commission moves to implement the right for Belmont residents to reserve one tennis court at each of the three locations, at \$5.00 per hour. We will evaluate the success, community

feedback, etc., during our January meeting; discuss the number of reservations that were made, for how long, and other data to reevaluate approach for spring season.

In favor: Marsha, David, Cortney, Mary, Melissa, Anne

Against: Anthony

**Vigliolo Skating Rink Update:** Brandon

Working on it now and will provide an update next month

Ongoing business:

- Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2020
  - Approve meeting minutes: unanimous Anne, David, Mary, Cortney, Marsha, Melissa, Anne, Anthony
- Meeting Minutes – August 13, 2020
  - Approve meeting minute: Marsha, Cortney, David, Mary, Melissa, Anthony
  - Abstain: Anne (absent)
- Intros from Recreation Commission to new member Theresa O'Connor
- Next meetings, all at 5:30pm:
  - October 14<sup>th</sup>
  - November 18<sup>th</sup>
  - December 9<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned 7:29 pm.