**Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, 01.22.20**

**Town Hall, Memorial Conference Room**

**7:00pm**

Attendees: Laura Jaynes, Christine Lavoie, Tracy McGraw, Rick Greenier – MYA, John Barkley – Alternative MYA, Abbie Cote – Student Representative, Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club, Shannon Barnes – School Board Representative and Michelle Creswell

Parks and Recreation Staff: Matt Casparius, Director

Absent:

Excused: Julie Poole and Lon Woods - Town Council

Public:

Start time: 7:01pm

1 Open Meeting/Introduction

* Moment of silence was held for Jackie Flood

2 Approval of minutes from November 20th 2019

* Shannon Barnes made the motion to accept the November meeting minutes
* Tracy McGraw 2nd the motion to accept the November meeting minutes
* 8-0-1 motion passed (abstained – Michelle Creswell)

3 Old Business - Matt Casparius

* Update on Department Budget Presentation to the Town Council
  + Demolition of 3 cabins at Wasserman Park
  + Tennis Court Project to get resurfaced
  + Minimum wage could increase in NH and if that gets passed then camp fees could increase
* Wasserman Park
  + Beach Project update
    - Dawn Tuomala, Town Engineer from DPW and Matt Casparius went and spoke with DES regarding the removal of the trees and the state said the project was denied
    - Dawn will create a new plan to bring back to the state
  + Winter Storm Damage
    - Due to bad weather, tree damage occurred to 1 cabin at Wasserman Park and the insurance company is reviewing the damage and will come back with the information
* Update from Merrimack Dog Park - Christine Lavoie
  + Thank you the person who shoveled the park
  + Dog Park Fund Balance – $2,896.59 (as of 09.18.19)
  + Possible Easter Egg Fundraiser
  + Facebook page: Friends of the Merrimack Dog Park
  + Any pet safe salt and doggies bags donations are welcome

4 Director's Report - Matt Casparius

* Update on Ice Skating Rink
  + Opened on 01.21.20
  + Lights were ordered end of 2019 and once installed they will run on a scheduled basis
  + Posts need to be made
  + Wiring will start to be installed on 01.23.20
* Summer Camp Updates
  + Registration has opened in mid-January and 205 have already registered
  + Summer Hiring
    - Currently accepting applications
* Report on the Annual Holiday Happenings Event
  + Special thanks to the DPW for plowing to make the events accessible for the 100s of people that attended all the events
* Upcoming Special Events
  + Murder Mystery Dinner Event - Saturday, February 8th – 1950’s Sock Hop Theme
  + 28th Annual Winter Carnival - Saturday, February 22nd from noon to 3pm at Wasserman Park – approximately 20 groups have tables so far
* Rental Fees for the Function Hall at Wasserman Park will be on the February Parks and Recreation agenda

5 Organization Reports

* Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall
  + Elections of Officers were held
  + Sign up for the events are taking place to book for possible future events
* MYA - John Barkley
  + Basketball (600) and wrestling (50) are currently in season
  + Lacrosse, travel soccer, softball and baseball are open for registration
  + No new information regarding possible athletic fields for Greenfield Farms property off Pearson
  + Open secretary position
  + merrimackyouth.org
* Town Council – Lon Woods – not present
* School Board – Shannon Barnes
  + What options for parking and participation for future events went to the School Board
  + School budget was completed and passed to the Budget Committee
  + Warrant article for O’Gara Project Plan will be put on the ballot
  + Deliberative Session is scheduled for 03.03.20 and snow date is 03.05.20
* School Representative – Abbie Cote
  + Finals are completing and new semester will be starting
  + 02.05.20 is the Ensemble Event at the Little Theater
  + Merrimack Quiz Bowl won and now they will compete in the Finals on 01.25.20 against Plymouth

6 Comments from the Public – was none

7 Comments from the Committee – was none

8 Future Meeting Dates

* Wednesday, February 19th
* Wednesday, March 18th

9 Adjourn at 8:05pm

* Maureen Hall made the motion to adjourn at 8:05pm
* Shannon Barnes 2nd the motion
* 9-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Creswell