

Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 09.16.20
Virtual Meeting
7:00pm

FOR PUBLIC USE: If the public would like to “attend” the meeting they may do so through via telephone: Dial by your location (312) 626 6799 US (929) 205 6099 US Meeting ID: 945 1175 8226

Participation via Phone for Public Comment / Hearing: To participate press *9 when prompted to do so (public hearing, public participation, etc.) This will display as a "hand wave", letting the host or co-host know that the caller wishes to speak.

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

Parks and Recreation Staff on zoom: Matt Casparius, Director

Absent: none

Excused: Jon Barkley – Alternative MYA and Lon Woods - Town Council

Public: none

Start time: 7:03pm

- 1 Open Meeting/Introduction
- 2 Approval of minutes from August 19, 2020
 - Shannon Barnes made the motion to accept the August meeting minutes
 - 2nd the motion
 - 5-0-4 motion passed (abstained – Maureen Hall, Rick Greenier, Shannon Barnes and Julie Poole)
- 3 New Business - Matt Casparius
 - Initial Discussion on FY 2021 – 2022 Parks & Recreation Capital Improvement Projects
 - Wasserman Park Dock Replacement
 - Dock is 29 years old and needs replacement
 - Current figuration is an “H” shape and the approximate cost to replace is \$42,000 to make the “H” shape
 - Proposed figuration is a reversed “L” shape dock and the approximate cost to replace is \$21,000 and will give the lifeguards a cleaner line of sight
 - Parks & Recreation Office Repairs & Improvements
 - Office building is approximately 45 years old and is not ADA excessive and the cost is approximately \$7,000 to build a ramp
 - Roof needs to be replaced and cost is approximately \$5,000
 - Other suggestions?
 - Rick Greenier asked about the skateboard park and what could be done for that space and Shannon Barnes said its status que right now
- 4 Old Business
 - Watson Park Closure Update - Matt Casparius

- Kyle Fox and Matt Casparius discussed the fence option to the Town Council
- The Town Council voted to approve installing the fence and they also discussed the timing of when that could get installed
- The cost is approximately \$26,000
- As of now, the park will remain closed until the fence is installed
- Wasserman Park Beach Update - Matt Casparius
 - Still on track to start during the fall of this year which will include:
 - Dredging the lake
 - Beach shoreline updates
 - Handicap updates
- Update from Merrimack Dog Park - Christine Lavoie
 - Dog Park Fund Balance – \$2,761.59 (finance department miss coded the 2019 mulch purchase so that reflects the new balance)
 - Clean up day needs to be scheduled to spread the mulch and volunteer welcome
 - Donations for baggies for dog waste is always welcome
 - Bring water for your dog as the waterline project is still ongoing
 - Overgrowth of weeds will be addressed
 - Boy Scout Project for the installation of the kiosk will be starting soon

5 Director's Report - Matt Casparius

- Summer Community Events Update
 - Concerts in the Park
 - About 100 people per week have attended
 - Movies in the Park
 - 3 movies and went well
- Fall Program Updates
 - Wasserman Park 5K Obstacle Course Race starting at 8am - registration opened on August 20th and cost is \$35 with shirt included
 - Volunteers are needed
 - Status of National Night Out – has been cancelled
 - Community Blood Drive – Saturday Oct 10th from 10-2 at Wasserman Park at the Function Hall
 - Annual Halloween Party: The Monster Stroll has been proposed to the Town Council
 - Saturday Oct 24th at Wasserman Park – completely outdoor from noon to 3pm
 - Merrimack residents only
 - Time entry tickets to limit amount to people at the event at intervals
 - Participants will go from cabin to cabin to enjoy each activity
- Town of Merrimack's 275th Anniversary
 - Committee has been created to plan for the anniversary and April 2nd, 2021 is the official anniversary day
- Tennis Court Resurfacing Project Update
 - Money is available in the budget, but spring is the better season to complete this project

6 Organization Reports

- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall
 - The center could open back up in the spring
- School Representative – Abbie Cote
 - School started with a hybrid schedule: 2 days in school, 2 days at home and 1 day as a flex day
 - Football, cheer and marching band are in session
 - Senior night scheduled for September 25th
- MYA - Rick Greenier
 - 1 open position for their board – Member at Large
 - Brian Harris – retire President
 - John Calabro – new President
 - Becky Hayes – secretary
 - Fall baseball, softball and football are in session
- School Board – Shannon Barnes
 - Sports are in session
- Town Council – Lon Woods – not present

7 Comments from the Public – was none

- Those wishing to participate in "public comment" can do so via a dedicated e-mail address prior to the start of the meeting. These e-mails can be read at the discretion of the participants or recorded for the meeting minutes as part of the public record. Emails should be sent to: mcasparius@merrimacknh.gov. All e-mails sent to this address for the September 16th meeting will be forwarded to ALL members of the Parks & Recreation Committee as long as they are received before the meeting begins.

8 Comments from the Committee – was none

9 Future Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, October 21st, 2020
- Wednesday November 18th, 2020

10 Adjourn at 8:12pm

- Shannon Barnes made the motion to adjourn at 8:12pm
- Christine Lavoie 2nd the motion
- 9-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Creswell