

Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 22, 2023
Town Hall, Matthew Thornton Meeting Room
7:00pm

Attendees: Tracy McGraw, Phil Przybyszewski, David Shaw, Julie Poole, Naomi Halter – School Board Representative, Camryn Gaumont – Student Representative, Rick Greenier – MYA, Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club, Lon Woods - Town Council and Michelle Creswell

Parks and Recreation Staff: Matt Casparius, Director

Absent: none

Excused: Laura Jaynes, Christine Lavoie, Jonathan Barkley – Alternate MYA and Laurie Rothhaus – Alternate School Board Representative

Public: Christopher Yon

Start time: 7:02pm

Open Meeting/Introductions

New Business:

- Presentation from Christopher Yon, Troop 44, Eagle Scout Project Proposal at Wasserman Park
 - Kiosk to display information built like Appalachian Trail Message Center located at the corner of the Merrimack Community Garden
 - Estimated cost is \$1,000
 - Fundraising ideas include car wash and discounted supplies
 - Phil Przybyszewski made the motion to accept the proposed Eagle Scout Project Proposal at Wasserman Park and send to the Town Council
 - Julie Poole 2nd the motion
 - 10-0-0 motion passed

Approval of minutes from February 15, 2023

- Phil Przybyszewski made the motion to accept the February meeting minutes
- David Shaw 2nd the motion
- 6-0-4 motion passed (abstained: Julie Poole, Naomi Halter, Lon Woods and Michelle Creswell)

Old Business:

- Update from Merrimack Dog Park - Tracy McGraw
 - Dog Park Fund Balance – \$1,693.59
 - Spring cleanup is needed and reminder to pet owners to clean up dog's waste
 - Looking for volunteers for fundraising events you can reach out to friendsofthemerrimackdogpark on Facebook or Matt Casparius
 - Donations for baggies for dog waste and garbage are always welcome
- Skateboard Park Discussion - Matt Casparius
 - Timeline we have 2 years to determine location of skateboard park and 2 proposed locations are:
 - Adjacent to Bishop Field closer to the school – MYA does use this area for practices
 - Wasserman Park where the swimming pool was located – not centrally located

Director's Report: Matt Casparius

- Update on Full Time Summer Camp & Afterschool Coordinator Position
 - Position has posted and interviews are on going
- Expanding Program Focus
 - Fall programs for teens
 - Middle school and high school programs
- Summer Camp Registration Update
 - Came registration opened in mid-January, councilors are hired and wait list is open
- Summer Hiring Update
 - Councilors are hired
 - Following positions are still needed for summer camp: waterfront director, lifeguards and senior camp counselor (18-year-old)
 - Custodial/Maintenance part time position open
- Annual Winter Carnival was successful
- Upcoming Special Events
 - 31st Annual Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 1st from 10-11:30am
 - Volunteers are needed

Organization Reports:

- MYA - Rick Greenier
 - Basketball and wrestling just wrapped up
 - Baseball, softball, lacrosse and soccer are coming up
 - Thanks to Getinge and Elbit for using their fields
 - merrimackyouthassociation.com
- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall
 - Held St Patrick's Day party and Meals and Wheels supplied the food
 - Meetings held on Monday's followed by bingo and Thursdays are for Open House
- School Board – Naomi Halter
 - Last day of school is June 20th (providing no more days off)
 - First day of school is August 31st and host transition day
 - April 11th – voting day
- Student Representative – Camryn Gaumont
 - Camryn is looking for her replacement as she is a senior this year
- Town Council – Lon Woods
 - Deliverable session was held

Comments from the Public: none

Comments from the Committee: none

Adjourn at 7:55pm

- Julie Poole made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm
- Phil Przybyszewski 2nd the motion
- 10-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Creswell