

Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 04.21.21
Virtual Meeting
7:00pm

Attendees on Zoom: Laura Jaynes, Christine Lavoie, Julie Poole, Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club, Rick Greenier – MYA, Abbie Cote – Student Representative, Lon Woods - Town Council and Michelle Creswell

Parks and Recreation Staff on zoom: Matt Casparius, Director

Absent: none

Excused: Tracy McGraw, Laurie Rothhaus – School Board Representative, Shannon Barnes – Alternate School Board Representative and Jon Barkley – Alternative MYA

Public: none

Start time: 7:02pm

- 1 Open Meeting/Introduction
- 2 Approval of minutes from March 17th, 2021
 - Lon Woods made the motion to accept the March meeting minutes
 - Julie Poole 2nd the motion
 - 4-0-4 motion passed (Julie Poole, Maureen Hall, Lon Woods Michelle Creswell abstained)
- 3 Old Business
 - Update on the Wasserman Park Beach Renovation Project - Matt Casparius
 - Bids went out and closed on March 30th
 - 2 bids came back higher than expected and this project is on hold until maybe end of summer/start of fall
 - Update from Merrimack Dog Park - Christine Lavoie
 - Dog Park Fund Balance – \$1,762.59
 - Request for funding for yearly playground mulch for \$999
 - Maureen Hall made the motion to allow \$999 for the playground mulch
 - Julie Poole 2nd the motion
 - 8-0-0 motion passed
 - New Water Spiggot has been installed and the water in park will get turned on soon
 - Possible project with the Merrimack Lions Club - TBD
 - Donations for baggies for dog waste is always welcome
 - Completion of Eagle Scout Project – Joy Morris, Troop 15
 - 2nd gaga pit was installed and ready for use
- 4 Director's Report - Matt Casparius
 - New Function Hall Improvements
 - New panels to help with the acoustics have been ordered and the Rotary Club is also helping with this project
 - 2021 Summer Camp Update
 - COVID-19 Guidance
 - New guidelines coming out the first week of May – so TBD how that effects camp
 - Registration & Summer Hiring Update

- Registration and summer hires are open and being excepted
- Report on Recent Community Special Events
 - Report on the Annual Easter Egg hunt
 - Revised version with a “drive up” hunt - 400 easter egg kits were made for each group that registered
 - Report on Community Clean Up Day
 - Event was held on April 10th and over 100 volunteers helped clean up
- Upcoming Community Events
 - Movie Nights in the Park for Summer 2021:
 - Friday, June 11th – Finding Dory
 - Friday, July 9th - Ferris Buellers Day Off
 - Friday, August 13th - Beauty and the Beast
 - Friday, September 17th - Raiders of the Lost Arc
 - Moonlit Trails & Tales - Fridays, April 23rd & May 21st
 - 2.75 Mile “Not Quite a 5K Road Race - Saturday, May 15th - registration is still open and volunteers needed
 - 4th of July 2021 – TBD
 - 3 people have submitted letters of interest to join the Parks and Rec Committee and the next step will be for the letters to go to the Town Council for review
- Other Department Updates
 - None

5 Organization Reports

- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall
 - No meetings are held due to COVID
 - John O’Leary building is closed, and possible re-opening date is TBD
- School Representative – Abbie Cote
 - April vacation starts for week of 26th
 - Full time in school is now offered as an option
- MYA - Rick Greenier
 - Softball, baseball, lacrosse and soccer seasons are in session
 - merrimackyouthassociation.com
- School Board – Laurie Rothhaus not present
- Town Council – Lon Woods
 - Thanked Matt Casparius for last presentation to the Town Council regarding Summer Camp plans

6 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 April 21st meeting will be sent to ALL members of the Parks & Recreation Committee if they are received before 6:30 pm on the day of the meeting.

7 Committee Comments

- Christine Lavoie mentioned that on April 21st a member of a Merrimack a Girl Scout Troop reached out to the Dog Park Committee asking to volunteer and work on Earth Day to help plant flower beds under the dog park sign
- Matt Casparius gave Summer Concert Series
 - June 23rd – Miss Juliann & Mr Joey
 - June 30th – Ben Eramo Solo Show
 - July 7th – Bill Connors: American Elton
 - July 14th – Whiskey Horse
 - July 21st – The Reminisants
 - July 28th – Studio Two
 - August 4th - North River Music
 - August 11th – Rockin’ Ron the Friendly Pirate

8 Future Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, May 19th, 2021
- Wednesday, June 16th, 2021

9 Adjourn at 7:50pm

- Maureen Hall made the motion to adjourn at 7:50pm
- Rick Greenier 2nd the motion
- 8-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Creswell