

**Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, 09.16.15**  
**Merrimack Town Hall, Memorial Conference Room**  
**7:00pm**

Attendees: Christine Lavoie, Dan Ricker, Nick Kropelin, Michelle Cushman, Rick Greenier – MYA and Cinda Guagliumi – School Board

Parks and Recreation Director: Matt Casparius

Absent:

Excused: Chris Christensen, Laura Jaynes, Julie Poole, Jackie Flood, Melissa Kowalewski, Dan Dwyer – Town Council and Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club

Public: Justin Calautti

Start time: 7:00pm

- 1 Open Meeting/Introduction
  
- 2 Approval of minutes from August 19, 2015
  - Dan Ricker made the motion to accept the August Meeting Minutes
  - Cinda Guagliumi 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
  - Dan Ricker made the motion to remove the e on bite and make it bit so it would be corrected to say – “If someone is bit by a dog...”
  - 6-0-0 motion passed
  
- 3 Old Business
  - Update from the Friends of the Merrimack Dog Park - Matt Casparius and Christine Lavoie
    - Financial Update
      - Bertucci’s fund raiser was a success and raised \$195.04
    - Upcoming Events/Activities
      - September 19<sup>th</sup> – Saver’s which is clothing by the pound donation
      - September 19<sup>th</sup> – Business Expo – possible bake sale
    - Next Dog Park Meeting is Wednesday, 09.23 at 7pm
    - Town Council accepted \$25,000 from contest as well gifts that have been made
    - Balance for the Dog Park is \$51,426. 78
    - Spring implementation is proposed date for the dog park
  
- 4 New Business
  - Wasserman Park – Phase II Improvements - \$100,000 - Matt Casparius
    - Permanent Water Line to Function Hall
    - Sprinkler System in Function Hall

- Heat in Function Hall
  - Possible restoration of the basement for use
  - Discussion on Wasserman Park Function Hall Rentals
    - Past problems
      - Problems with giving out keys for use
        - Nick Kropelin made the suggestion to use key pads instead of keys
    - Possible future uses
      - Current policy doesn't address following items:
        - Alcohol
        - Insurance Policy
        - Use of the kitchen – safe handling the facility and any possible fire hazards
        - Parking
        - Fee's
          - Non-resident and resident possible fee
          - Non Profit Organizations possible fee
            - Christine Lavoie made the suggestions of donating work time for rental fee
            - Cinda Guagliumi said the deposits might be a little low
          - Rick Greenier made the suggestion to not break some of the rooms and fees up as it best fits
        - Matt would like to see what else can be added such as:
          - After school programs
          - Extra help for cleaning/maintenance during rental time
          - Day care
          - Program for home school children
          - Homework club after school
          - Doggie Day Care
          - Camp Conference Center
- Preliminary Budget Discussion - Matt Casparius
  - What new programs or services should we be advocating for?
    - Budget will get written in October
    - Capital Budget has tentatively marked money for athletic fields for the 2021 Budget and need to start thinking about this now for preparation for the 2021 Budget
      - River access and public boat ramp
      - Athletic Fields
      - Full size basketball courts
      - Tennis courts
    - Operating Budget:
      - July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

- Need to think about what programs should be running
- Possible revolving fund line item for new programs that can be added in real time versus planned ahead in a budgeted line item
- Half day preschool
- Teen events such as field trips
- Drama program
- Weekend park ranger program
- School vacation weeks
- Sailing lessons
- Rick Greenier made the suggestion of paddle boards
- Christine Lavoie made the suggestion of kayaking lessons

## 5 Director's Report - Matt Casparius

- Vandalism at the skateboard park which is being investigated by the Merrimack Police Department
- Disk Golf group is out marking off the area and need to start fundraising efforts
- Fall Programs/Online Registration
  - Credit cards are now an option
- Update on Eagle Scout Projects
  - Justin Calautti, Eagle Scout Candidate from Troop 424, presented the updates for the proposal of the Boat Rack at Wasserman Park
    - Construction was completed for the boat rack and should be ready for next summer
    - Justin Calautti presented Parks and Recreation Committee with \$246.96 from left over fundraising money
  - Ian Finken is almost complete on his sign project at Wasserman Park
  - Megan Murphy will be having the open house for Arts and Crafts building – date TBD
- Merrimack Lion's Club is looking at adopting a Cabin at Wasserman Park. Details still being worked out but will include renaming the Cabin after them as well as some sort of recognition plaque.
- Upcoming Special Events
  - Fall Business Expo – Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 3pm and volunteers are needed
  - Community Blood Drive – Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 2pm – 7pm at Wasserman Park
  - Halloween Party – Friday, October, 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5pm – 8pm and are looking for businesses and organizations to help with events during the party

## 6 Organization Reports

- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall - not present
- MYA - Rick Greenier
  - Holly Golden is new Treasurer on the Executive Board
  - Soccer, fall baseball and fall softball is in session
  - Basketball and wrestling is about to open for registration

- Town Council –Dan Dwyer – not present
- School Board – Cinda Guagliumi
  - Nothing to report

7 Comments from the Public - was nothing

8 Comments from the Committee

9 Future Meeting Dates

- 10.21.15
- 11.18.15

10 – Adjourn at 8:01pm

- Michelle Cushman made the motion to adjourn at 8:01pm
- Christine Lavoie 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 6-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Cushman