

Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 08.19.20
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: 953 0638 4179

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, Abbie Cote – Student Representative, Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club and Michelle Creswell

Parks and Recreation Staff on zoom: Matt Casparius, Director

Absent:

Excused: Julie Poole, Jon Barkley – Alternative MYA, Rick Greenier – MYA, Shannon Barnes – School Board Representative and Lon Woods - Town Council

Public:

Start time: 7:03pm

- 1 Open Meeting/Introduction
- 2 Approval of minutes from June 17, 2020
 - Laura Jaynes made the motion to accept the June meeting minutes
 - Tracy McGraw 2nd the motion
 - 5-0-1 motion passed (abstained – Maureen Hall)
- 3 New Business - Matt Casparius
 - Watson Park Closure
 - Pictures & Discussion – see attachment
 - Questions & Comments from the public – none
 - Questions & Comments from the committee:
 - Tracy McGraw spoke about the fence idea and what would happen when people climbed over
 - Matt said the fence would be 6ft and no trespassing signs would be posted so the Merrimack Police Department could take action for those trespassers
 - Laura Jaynes also commented that the chain link fence is the best option
 - Tracy McGraw made the motion to support Matt Casparius and Kyle Fox’s recommendation to install a permanent 6ft chain link fence at Watson Park
 - Christine Lavoie 2nd the motion
 - 6-0-0 motion passed
- 4 Old Business - Christine Lavoie
 - Update from Merrimack Dog Park
 - Dog Park Fund Balance – \$3,361.59
 - Donations for baggies for dog waste is always welcome
 - Overgrowth of weeds is being addressed
 - Mulch delivery is scheduled for September
 - Bring water for your dog
- 5 Director's Report - Matt Casparius
 - Summer Community Events Update
 - 27 new programs were introduced over the summer
 - Concerts in the Park
 - 80-100 people per week have attended

- Movies in the Park
 - Saturday, September 5th at 7:30pm – Frozen 2
- Function Hall Updates
 - New Fee Schedule Approved by Town Council
 - See attached for new costs
 - COVID-19 Requirements for Function Hall Rentals
 - See attachment for details
 - Merrimack Rotary Club Project Update
 - Painting Project for Wasserman Function Hall is complete
- Fall Program Updates
 - Wasserman Park 5K Obstacle Course Race - registration opens on August 20th and cost is \$35 with shirt included
 - National Night Out – postponed to Oct 6th and details are still being worked out to see if this event can happen
 - Community Blood Drive – Saturday Oct 10th from 10-2 at Wasserman Park at the Function Hall
 - Halloween Party
 - Tentative scheduled for Saturday Oct 24th at Wasserman Park
 - Merrimack residents only
 - Time entry tickets to limit amount to people at the event at intervals
 - Participants will go from building to building to enjoy each activity
- Lions Club of Merrimack
 - Looking for Community Projects – asking for wish list to work on from Parks and Recreation
 - Tracy McGraw recommended some sort of agility course for the dog park
- Wasserman Park Update – scheduled to start after Labor Day
 - Docks will be removed first to clean up that area
 - Retaining wall will be put in
 - Steps to the beach and sand will be put in
 - Future projects include new docks and pathway to get to the beach

6 Organization Reports

- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall
 - Facility will be renovated
- School Representative – Abbie Cote
 - School starts on September 9th and watch the School Board Meetings to get the most current rules and guidelines for upcoming school year
- MYA - Rick Greenier – not present
 - Matt Casparius read Rick Greenier's updates:
 - 2 open positions for their board – Member at Large and Secretary
 - Baseball, softball and soccer were able to play
 - Baseball, softball, football and soccer are scheduled to run in fall
- School Board – Shannon Barnes - not present
- Town Council – Lon Woods – not present

7 Comments from the Public – was none

8 Comments from the Committee

- Tracy McGraw spoke about the sticker needed for the parking lot at the water at Wasserman Park and Matt Casparius said town transfer sticker or Wasserman Park placard (which is free)
- Matt Casparius he is asking for funding for parking attendants back at Wasserman Park

9 Future Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, September 16th, 2020

- Wednesday, October 21st, 2020

10 Adjourn at 8:51pm

- Maureen Hall made the motion to adjourn at 8:51pm
- Tracy McGraw 2nd the motion
- 6-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Creswell