**Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, 06.20.18**

**Merrimack Town Hall, Matthew Thornton Room**

**7:00 pm**

Attendees: Laura Jaynes, Christine Lavoie, Hillary Baird, Tracy McGraw, Corey Davenport, Abbie Cote – Student Representative, Rick Greenier – MYA, Peter Albert - Town Council and Michelle Creswell

Parks and Recreation Director: Matt Casparius

Absent:

Excused: Julie Poole, Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club and Shannon Barnes (alternate) – School Board

Public: Ben Haddad, Jim Jolly, Justin Haddad and Deana Haddad

Start time: 7:02pm

1 Open Meeting/Introduction

2 Approval of minutes from May 16th 2018

* Rick Greenier made the motion to accept the May Meeting Minutes
* Peter Albert 2nd the motion
* 5-0-4 motion passed

3 New Business

* Eagle Scout Candidate Ben Haddad – Camp Gaga Ball Pit at Wasserman Park – see attachment
	+ Presented the project of building a Gaga Ball Pit and 2 benches
	+ Estimated cost is $1800
	+ Fund raising ideas are bake sales and TBD
	+ Christine Lavoie made the motion to except the Camp Gaga Ball Pit at Wasserman Park Project and to be presented to the Town Council
	+ Rick Greenier 2nd the motion
	+ 9-0-0 motion passed
* Annual Election of Officers
	+ Hillary Baird made the motion to nominate Michelle Creswell for Secretary
		- Christine Lavoie 2nd the motion
		- 9-0-0 motion passed
	+ Peter Albert made the motion to nominate Laura Jaynes for Chairman
		- Tracy McGraw 2nd the motion
		- 9-0-0 motion passed
	+ Laura Jaynes made the motion to nominate Christine Lavoie for Assistant Chairman
		- Rick Greenier 2nd the motion
		- 9-0-0 motion passed
* Update from the Lake Naticook Conservation Association's Annual meeting - Laura Jaynes
	+ Meeting is on June 21st to review all agenda items such as lawn treatments and milfoil
* Goal Setting for 2018 – 2019 - Matt Casparius
	+ Committee is asked to think about idea’s for possible projects such as Disk Golf
	+ Peter Albert talked about the following items:
		- fixing the waterfront at Wasserman Park and the cost be would about $83,000 and asked Matt Casparius to bring a presentation to the Town Council for this project and any other projects
		- all approvals and permits have been obtained to run the electrical and water lines for Watson Park for the skating rink and volleyball court
			* talks will need to occur with surrounding neighbors to hear their concerns
		- in a holding pattern until July 30th for the lease to run up for the skateboard park and basketball courts at O’Gara Dr.
		- Conservation Committee is asking for recommendations for projects for the walking trails
	+ Tracy McGraw recommended a project to get water by the Dog Park
	+ Hillary Baird asked the town to reach out to the committee to what projects they might have and offered to help with creating a survey for the town
	+ Laura Jaynes asked if any grants could be written for any proposed projects

4 Old Business

* Report on June 8th Movie in the Park - Matt Casparius
	+ 50 people attended for Murder on the Orient Express
* Update from Merrimack Dog Park - Christine Lavoie
	+ Dog Park Fund Balance – $1,640.04 (with current allocations)
	+ Dog shed called the “Dog House” is up and looks great and the Ribbon cutting/photo will be taken with the Girl Scouts on June 21st at 6pm
	+ New mulch delivered on June 20th and will be spread on June 23rd
	+ Due to the last storm, a tree came down on a piece of the fence and DPW came and removed the tree right away and Gate City will give the estimate for the fence
	+ Pet Photo Contest for the next fundraising event and details TBD

5 Director's Report - Matt Casparius

* Summer Camp
	+ Camp staff is almost at 100% capacity
	+ June 25th is the first day of camp
* Upcoming Special Events
	+ Summer Concert Series
		- Wednesdays, June 20th – August 15th from 6-8pm (except for July 4th there will be holiday concert on July 3rd)
	+ 4th of July Festivities
		- Sparkler 5K Road Race at 8am starts at YMCA
		- Merrimack Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast from 8 – 11am at the Merrimack High School
		- Parade starts at 1pm with about 55 entries so far and volunteers are still needed from 11:15 – 1:15
		- Merrimack Rotary Club’s Independence Day Celebration is from 12-9pm with many vendors
		- Fireworks begin around 9pm at Watson Park
	+ Summer Movies in the Park at Abbie Griffin Park
		- Friday, July 13th Back to the Future
		- Friday, July 27th The Lion King - Lions Club
		- Tuesday, August 7th Despicable Me 3 – Police Department’s National Night Out
		- Friday, August 24th Boss Baby
* Update on Program Coordinator Search - Matt Casparius
	+ Posting closes soon and there are some candidates who have applied
1. Organization Reports
* Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall – not present
* MYA - Rick Greenier
	+ Secretary and Member at Large positions are still open as well as coaches
	+ Tournament Baseball and Tournament Softball are in session
* Town Council – Peter Albert
	+ Items were covered in above agenda bullets
	+ Lion’s Club sent a donation of $210 for the camper scholarship fund
	+ Merrimack 360 donated $1050 for the camper scholarship fund
* School Board (alternate) – Shannon Barnes (not present)
	+ Matt Casparius mentioned that the former School Board member Michael Thompson has stepped down and they are currently interviewing for a new member
* School Representative – Abbie Cote
	+ Welcome to Abbie Cote

7 Comments from the Public – was none

8 Comments from the Committee – was none

9 Future Meeting Dates

* No meeting in July
* Wednesday, August 15th

10 Adjourn at 8:13pm

* Peter Albert made the motion to adjourn at 8:13pm
* Tracy McGraw 2nd the motion
* 9-0-0 motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Creswell