**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