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  
     o Bids went out and closed on March 30th  
     o 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  
     o Dog Park Fund Balance – $1,762.59  
     o Request for funding for yearly playground mulch for $999  
     o Maureen Hall made the motion to allow $999 for the playground mulch  
     o Julie Poole 2nd the motion  
     o 8-0-0 motion passed  
     o New Water Spiggot has been installed and the water in park will get turned on soon  
     o Possible project with the Merrimack Lions Club - TBD  
     o Donations for baggies for dog waste is always welcome

   • Completion of Eagle Scout Project – Joy Morris, Troop 15  
     o 2nd gaga pit was installed and ready for use

4 Director's Report - Matt Casparius  
   • New Function Hall Improvements  
     o New panels to help with the acoustics have been ordered and the Rotary Club is also helping with this project

   • 2021 Summer Camp Update  
     o COVID-19 Guidance  
       ▪ New guidelines coming out the first week of May – so TBD how that effects camp  
     o 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 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