

# Westfield Recreation Commission

February 1, 2021, 7:30pm

- OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT
  - Bogardus
- ROLL CALL
  - Present: Re, Gilman, Stewart, Perrella, Berman, Bogardus, Rothenberg, Johnson, Katz, Harmon, Howell, Glacken, Monusky, Feldman, Garrison
  - Absent: Bergin, Chacko,
- FLAG SALUTE
  - Bogardus
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - First Berman
  - Second Rothenberg
  - Unanimous approval
- PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING
  - None
- TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT - Katz
  - No report
- BOARD of EDUCATION LIAISON REPORT - Garrison
  - Dolan to retire. Regular meeting and special meeting to hire consultant to search for successor to take over in July. Plan to survey Rec Committee for input.
- DIRECTOR's REPORT - Bogardus
  - In office split shifts resumes tomorrow now that quarantine period has ended
  - Sycamore playground paperwork pending a more concrete plan. To be circulated before and discussed at March 1.
  - Prepping for Spring activities and programs. Soliciting for field requests

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### POOL - Re

- Convened last week. Reconvene next week.
- Awaiting health department guidelines.
- Committee proposes to not raise membership fees.
- Preparing mail packets for past members (2019 and 2020) before reaching out to interest list. Sign up available for interest list online.
- Town mailing to include pool information.
- Looking for new revenue streams for pool to makeup for lost 2020 revenue.

### PARKS & FIELDS:

- No report. Committee to meet before March meeting.

**FINANCE:**

- Met last week.
- Nearing completion of report to review revenue and expenses of each program.

**PROGRAMS:**

- No report. 100 mile hustle a success. Virtual programming available.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS:**

- Plan to meet before March meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS: Gilman**

- Sycamore Playground slide had not been replaced as of 2 weeks ago
- Tamaques Wetlands report delayed from DEP
- Edison project group met today
- Meeting schedule approved
- Tennis lights are not on due to snow
- No update for park benches

**NEW BUSINESS: Bogardus/Gilman**

- Playground age and information provided. Request that Board members visit playgrounds and make suggestions for which ones need replacing.
  - Howell, Perrella ask for clarification on rubric. Gilman recommends reviewing for use. Re to circulate safety checklist.
  - Berman ask for recommended lifespan. Bogardus noted that usage is determinant.
- Brightwood Open Air Art Event from Westfield Art Association and Friends of Brightwood Park. Requested RD provide registration and insurance. RD does not provide insurance, that is on the reserving party. Reserving party to sign “No Harm” document. RD is stretched at the moment due to program prep.
  - Katz/Bogardus not familiar with prior Westfield Art Association events.
  - Howell recommends not covering registration or insurance due to RD constraints
  - Feldman recommends setting policy for application for RD programs with key requirements to make expectations clear for inquiries and allowing RD ample time to plan.
  - Berman motions to approve so long as FoB provides insurance and registration. Second Howell. Favor: Unanimous
- Boy Scouts Laser Tag in Tamaques Park back woods. Similar requests in the past. RD wants to be careful about setting precedent for future events. The woods are a passive section of the park. Do we want to make this active? Folks run and walk in that area of the park and do not want to close it off for that use.
  - Katz how is this similar/different to personal trainers and boot camps? Brindle mandate to help small businesses during COVID. By law private businesses cannot use parks for income unless they have town approval. Pre-COVID there have been unsanctioned events. We try to bring them into our program offerings, but have not been successful.
  - Gilman reservations are for particular areas such as tennis courts, pavilion, etc. This is less defined and is difficult to exclude other park goers from the area. Bogardus concerned about interaction with other park goers.
  - Monusky inquires if there is another area that we can use? Gilman notes that BS Troops reserve and use different areas but do not use vendors or companies to run an event, especially not in such a large area. Re/Bogardus note that the area request is unclear.

- Re will work to get a more specific location.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

All Correspondences were e-mailed to the Commission Members

Next Meeting March 1, 2021 @ 7:30 PM.

Berman Motion to adjourn, Howell second. Unanimous close.