

Recreation Commission Meeting

May 13, 2021

6pm Via WebEx

Attending:

- Myrt Jaquay, Donna DuSell, Christy Moore, Barb Zaccheo, and Jennifer Hoffman

Action items are listed in yellow.

6:02pm Meeting called to order

6:03pm Donna will share April 2021 meeting minutes with Christy this week

6:04pm **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Budget FY2022:

- City Council final vote for FY22 will be on May 19th at 5:30pm.

PARC Grant

- The Recreation Department attended the PARC Grant information session on May 4th. The Department needs to find time to move forward with the application process for the Skate Park. The Department will coordinate with new Community Preservation Act aspects of the PARC grant application. **PARC Grant deadline is in July.**

Sharps Containers in the Parks

- The City has seen an increase in syringe use in the parks over the last several months. The Recreation Department has collaborated with the Health Department, Department of Public Works, and Tapestry to install four Sharps units throughout the park system: Energy Park, Green River Park, Fire Station Parking Lot and Hillside Park. The Health Director, Jennifer Hoffman, has asked Tapestry to be on site at the Miles Street parking lots often and to increase the frequency of educational outreach. The sani-cans around the City continue to be misused and are dirty with human waste (not in the toilet) and condoms as well as syringes, and may ultimately be removed as this is a health hazard (e.g. hepatitis, etc.) and can cause damage to the equipment.

Energy Park

- The Franklin County Sheriff's Work Crew has been at the Energy Park for a day and a half. They have picked up 10+ bags of trash, cut back vines, spread stone dust, power washed the stage, and are prepping to paint both the station and caboose. **Christy has requested a City meeting to discuss our options for the daily park patrons.** This week the work crew needed to leave the park due to the conflicts arising with the park patrons. As of today, May 12, the Energy Park is

closed for Maintenance so that the work crew can continue with the project. Christy suggested a Homeless Task Force be implemented to determine what options are available to these individuals. Christy has facility use bookings and concerts in the next few weeks for the summer. The park needs to be a welcoming environment for all.

Teen Center Lift Zones

- Christy is working with Comcast and the National Program named “Lift Zones” for teen centers and other youth organizations. This will provide multiple wifi connections for the students to continue school work and educational programs. This is free service for three years with the option to possibly renew if they continue to offer it or end service if we choose to. Christy is working with the IT Director in regards to the filtering requirements for the safety and liability of the City and users. More details will come and this is very exciting for our Teen Center space.

6:24pm New Business

Summer 2021 Updates

- Christy, Loren, and Kelly are in full summer mode with field use, park rentals, programs running, pool setup and special events! Staff training is this weekend for gate, concession and lifeguards at the Swim Area.

Summer Staffing

- Christy is still looking to hire additional camp and lifeguard staff.

Program Updates- Registrations as of today:

Tennis Lessons (clay courts open next week- DPW is short staffed)

A 2/10

B 2/10

C 0/10

D 1/10

E 1/10

F 0/10

Learn to Play Tennis

A 6/10

B 1/10

Learn to Play Golf (taught by John Passiglia)

5/10

Basketball Clinic

3/10

Start Smart Soccer (is happening tonight with Loren)
A 10/10 *3 waitlist
B 10/10 *2 waitlist

Buddy Baseball
Players 7/20
Buddies 3/20

Greenfield Amazing Race
1/12

Swim Area

- The Recreation Department is working with DPW to get the facility open. The bathrooms, camp room, concessions, lifeguard and first aid rooms have been cleaned due to a layer of silt, sand, and rainwater. Equipment and appliances have been moved – the Recreation Department still needs to move all camp equipment and supplies. Beach sand and dam boards are all set. The Sherriff's Office work crew on Wednesday afternoon helped with weed-whacking, clearing the stairs, and side wall of silt debris. The Department has coordinated Comcast, alarm company and IT so all stations are a go. Next week we have the hood inspection and then Christy will schedule the Inspections with the Health and Building Departments.

Camp

- The Recreation Department has nearly finalized the COVID Safety plan and are still confirming rain site locations with the schools. The Department will have tents confirmed and will utilize school tables. The Department will still work on the design for the portable hand washing stations. Some sessions are full already with registrations continuing to come in. Christy is concerned about the school rain site as she has not received confirmation yet. Christy needs to follow up with them ASAP.

Special Events –

Movies in the Park – All @ Beacon Park

May 14: The Lion King (2019)
June 25: Trolls World Tour
July 16: Karate Kid
August 13: Tom & Jerry
September 24: Raya & The Last Dragon

Fireworks

- Christy has constantly been monitoring the Governor's guideline updates awaiting for the all clear on festivals, events and gathering limits. The

Department has an active vendor group who is eager to attend our event.
Vendor Income is \$4-\$5K per year.
Sponsors income \$3-\$5K per year. Donations \$3-\$4 per year.

Christy has updated the sponsorship letter and will prepare to send that out next week with the caveat that, if for some reason, the City need to postpone the event, the Department will either refund their money or ask to roll to 2022.

Commissioners will collect at Main/Federal for fireworks prior to July 2.

COVID Plan – The Department will prepare the plan for Health Dept. to review and approve. To date, the plan is to create 8 foot circles, 15 feet apart with a max 5 per circle around the field. The Vendors who are normally setup at the top of the hill (soccer field) would be located on Gerret Street and therefore this Street would be closed for the event. All vendors would be spaced further apart than normal. All attendees would be required to wear a mask if they are outside of their unit circle, getting food or using a restroom. PSA announcements will be made frequently reminding people of the mask requirement, social distancing and unit circle guidelines.

Music – If the Recreation Department keeps the same schedule, there would be group A: 6-7pm, Fortin Family Award, Group B: 7:15-8:15pm, Group C: 8:30pm and then 9:30 National Anthem and 9:35pm fireworks.

The Military Band would not be able to have the entire group on stage. Guidelines could change by this event too.

The largest cost of the night is police coverage for traffic control and field operations. Christy will speak to the Chief and see what flexibility there is with this but the City needs traffic control for the night.

Overall – with the change in guidelines expected, it seems this event can happen – the Department would just need to make clear that social distancing and mask wearing is required.

Christy will work with local radio stations and Keith in the Mayor's office to encourage donations for the fireworks.

Myrt made a motion to support the Recreation Department to fund raise and hold the Fireworks at Beacon Field with some entertainment on July 2 with rain date of July 5 with consultation of the Health Department. Seconded by Barb and all voted in favor.

Triathlon

- This event can also happen – Christy needs to move on this fast as well. Sanctioning application, registration site, website development, public relations, etc.

Bike Rodeo

- Is confirmed with Kiwanis on June 12. 1-3pm - @ GMS

Soap Box

- Held a meeting with Mik, Donna and Kelly this week. The confirmed date is September 12th. The Friends of Greenfield Recreation voted to accept the event as a fundraiser for the Friends and authorized a startup expenditure amount of \$1,000 for the event. Mik is working on the website for the event and held his first committee meeting also this week. Is anyone on the Rec Commission interested in joining the committee for this event? Myrt and Barb happy to volunteer on the day of the event. Donna will send a link for building material donations and Soapbox website.

Facility Rentals and Stage

- They continue to come in for scheduling and use. Multiple graduations and event requests for later in the fall.

Energy Park:

- There are no Sunday concerts this year. The COOP Concerts will continue in July and the Military Band will perform nightly in August this year. Strings for Kids are also using the park for several concerts.

Future Agenda Items

- Christy invite new Rec Dept. employee Loren Beale to introduce herself to the Commission.
- Donna and Christy continue revival of Friends of Greenfield Recreation.
- Christy will approach the Mayor about the Energy Park property boundary.
- Donna agreed to research the screening of movies at the Greenfield Garden Cinema as a future fundraiser for the Friends.
- Christy will check if a port a potty could be rented for the Beacon Field movies.
- Christy reach out to local manufacturers for donations for the robotics program.

Next Meeting Date:

June 17th at 6pm

7:26pm Adjourn – Motion made by: Barb

Seconded by: Donna