

**Stonington Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, February 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Human Services – Community Room
166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman C. Michael Crowley
Commissioners Jennifer Norcross, Larry Theadore, Jeff Moore & Ben Kepple
Recreation Administrator Richard Ward
Recreation Program Coordinator Pete Christina

Absent: Commissioner Stephanie Hartell

I. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Crowley called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

II. Publics' Opportunity to Address the Commission

None.

III. Secretary's Report

a. Approval of minutes from January 2024 Commission meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Theadore to approve the Regular Meeting, January 22, 2024 with one minor spelling error corrected. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moore, all in favor, motion approved.

IV. Recreation Administrator's Report

a. Winter Programs Final Report

Mr. Ward informed the Recreation Commission that they have wrapped up winter programs. He gave a quick overview and provided the number of participants in programs. There was a total of 725 participants. He noted 90 participants in basketball programs, 361 in flag football programs and 160 in the pickleball programs. Some programs were completely full and had a wait list. Mr. Christina noted that the basketball program ran really well and that flag football just wrapped up with a big tournament. Mr. Ward believes that they exceeded the number of participants from last year.

b. Spring / Summer Looking Ahead

So far, Mr. Ward stated that there are 344 early bird camp registrations (approximately \$95,000). All the individual weeks are full and he expects the full camp registrations to fill up by the end of March.

V. Finance Reports

a. General Fund -10173

According to Mr. Ward, this account is on target.

b. Special Activity -21100

Total revenue in this account is \$104,910 with a total expense of \$264,703 and a net loss of \$159,793. Mr. Ward noted that they will be catching up soon now that camp registrations have started. The cash balance is at \$91,679. Some of this is earmarked for the Spellman Park Master Plan. They have had a meeting which generated a lot of discussion and Mr. Ward provided a wish list. This will go to the public for feedback. They are in the beginning stages of laying out the plan. Discussion about funding will follow. Mr. Ward did note that he has been getting pressure from the pickleball players for additional courts. There was some discussion in regard to the Circus Lot.

c. Disc Golf Fund -21102

No changes to note.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore to approve the Finance Report as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Theadore, all in favor, motion approved.

VI. Chairman's Report

Chairman Crowley noted that there is a vote on the Circus Lot tonight. There was some discussion on how great of an opportunity it would be for the town to purchase this land back from the Town of Westerly. It would be a great asset to the town but it will take some work to clear the land.

VII. Old Business

a. Update on New Basketball Courts for Town Dock Area

Mr. Ward informed the Recreation Commission that putting in the basketball half court with a portable hoop on the field near the playground is back up for discussion. He will have the layout drawn up and get public feedback. Chairman Crowley noted that he has heard positive feedback. Mr. Ward also stated that the majority of the neighbors have a positive view.

b. Update Spellman Park Master Plan

Briefly discussed under V. Finance Reports b. Special Activity-21100.

VIII. New Business

None.

IX. Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Theadore at 6:22 P.M. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moore, all in favor, motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

Notes: Next Scheduled Meeting is Monday, March 25, 2024 at 6:00pm at Stonington Human Services

Respectfully Submitted,



C. Michael Crowley, Chairman