

# Town of Westborough Recreation Department

## Recreation Commission

**Date:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023

**Location:** Memorial Hall, 34 West Main St.

**Convened:** 6:33 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 7:39 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Recreation Director Jennifer Kirkland, Liaison to the Community Preservation Act Exploratory Committee Colleen Dowd, Finance Committee Liaison Andrew Bradley, Brian Kane, Bill Clausen. Bethany Travis, Gracie Hanson-Marshall, Vini Nandimandalam, Aaruni Nutulapathi, Harini Ollalwar, Ameya Kumsi, and Administrative Assistant Grethel Guzman-Ruck.

**Committee Members Absent:** Commission Chair Earl Storey, Golf Course Manager Matt Griffith, Program Coordinator Josh Aponte, and Katie Welch.

### **Approve Minutes: March 14, 2023**

Colleen made the motion to approve the minutes from March 14, 2023 and Beth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the minutes from March 14, 2023 were approved.

### **Golf Course: Updates**

The Golf Course opened Wednesday, March 22, 2023. We have taken in \$185,200 thus far in memberships this calendar year. Matt has done a lot of work organizing the Pro Shop. He is going to be arranging a golf clinic for children and adults using SNAG equipment that was purchased using the NEPGA grant. Jenn explained that Matt is hoping to bring this into schools next year and that the curriculum should be simple enough to learn and teach.

The Golf Club Building Use Committee is going to be composed of nine people and the first meeting is going to be scheduled. The recommendation for the golf course building usage should be decided by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Although nothing in regards to acquiring food trucks on the property has been approved, it was discussed the possibility of having trucks stationed close enough to the pro shop to attract golfers therein working with the golfing environment. Parking may be an issue as some people already park across the street when they cannot find parking at the golf course.

### **Recreation: Updates**

The Basketball season has wrapped up. We had a great year although there have been complaints about children not getting off the court when another game is about to begin. As for the Positive Coaching Alliance, Colleen explained that the price for using them is manageable if all of the sports teams work with them to divide the program cost.

Summer clinic registrations have opened; we are offering a variety of sports including girls softball this year. We have ten applicants for lifeguarding this year at Lake Chauncy. We are still in

search of a waterfront director. Other towns have gone to high schools during lunchtime to encourage students to take the lifeguarding course and apply.

All of our fields, except for Rogers Field, are open. We are applying for a grant for the dog park. We are also building another Cricket pitch. We have received many interested calls about this new facility. The Splash Pad has been pulled off the ARPA Proposal because the cost was much more than what we had previously anticipated.

We will follow up on the Algonquin RHS Boat Proposal. We have not heard back in regards to the funding Ralph Arabian may need to complete the project.

The new owners of the plazas at Baystate Commons are thrilled to have Recreation events such as the egg hunt and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Block Party at the commons because it will drive traffic to the businesses there.

## **Girl Scout Troop Project: Beach Library**

Girl Scout Troop 64670 proposed the construction and placement of a free beach toy lending library at Lake Chauncy which will be funded by Troop 64670. The beach library will provide toys to beachgoers that need but do not have toys. This library is ideal for recycling toys that are still in good use and it will support parents that will not need to pack beach toys. Because Recreation already hires beach staff, they can help in the maintenance of the beach library toys. When opening the beach for the season, the girl scouts will replenish toys for the library; the girl scout troop will remove toys at the end of the season. Donations and trading toys are encouraged. Lost toys can be placed into the beach library. We suggested having a plaque with contact information in case the library beach has any damage or wear-and-tear that must be fixed. There was a discussion about the materials that can be used to build this beach library. The troop asked for a recommendation for the placement of this beach library and if a concrete pad would be necessary for the base. We differed the inquiry to Earl Storey for the placement and Fred Lonardo for the base, being that we are unsure as to whether the beach library would be considered a structure. The Commission is generally in favor of this beach library.

## **Next Meeting: Memorial Hall, May 2, 2023**

The next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. Bill made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Colleen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Rec. Commission approved these minutes on Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grethel Guzman-Ruck