**GILFORD PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

**April 5, 2021**

**Present:** Participating by zoom: Herb Greene, Peter Allen, Rick Nelson, Tracey Blandford, Dave Smith, Lisa Manz-Buckley and Miriam York.

Excused: Jim Glover and Thom Francoeur

The meeting was called to order by Rick Nelson at 5:32.

1. Peter, Tracey, and Lisa were appointed as voting members until Dave arrived then Lisa was removed from voting.
2. **Minutes**:

Minutes of the March 1, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

1. **Programs Update:**

Herb reviewed the Director’s report. The Bunny Hop Story Walk was a success with 62 kids participating. Sue and Herb were joined by David, Rick, and Miriam from the Commission. Also helping were J’Lillian and 2 volunteers from the library, Scott from the Community Center, and members of the National Honor Society from the HS. Herb discussed a number of summer programs he is hoping to offer through the summer, although many are dependent upon COVID-19 guidelines and upon what the schools will allow in the building. As an FYI Herb said that this Wednesday there would be the first meeting of the Old Home Day Committee

1. **2021 Budget discussion:**

The voting in March went smoothly with all our P&R budget requests being passed.

1. **Gilford Ice Rink:**

The rink closed for the season on March 10th. From late January on the ice was in good shape and the rink was busy with more rentals than usual so more income.

1. **Village Field:**

The tennis courts are opened and the nets are up. The gate is now open and Belknap Landscaping is working on getting the three baseball fields ready for practices, this includes Stonewall Park.

1. **Beach:**

Herb has placed ads in the newspapers for lifeguards and gatekeepers. We currently have openings for 6 full time lifeguards and 2 part time lifeguards as well as one gatekeeper. There are not many certification courses being offered and no WSI classes available. This seems to be a problem with our surrounding towns as well. The maintenance crew is returning. The 2 new lifeguard stands should be ready by summer. June 19th is opening day for the beach but the gate and restrooms will be open starting Memorial Day weekend.

1. **Tennis Court Resurfacing bid review:**

One sealed bid has been received and that is from Advantage Tennis of Vermont. After some discussion, a motion was made by Tracy and seconded by Miriam – “To recommend the Board of Selectmen accept the bid from ATofV for the sum of $14,960 plus an additional amount of $3,800 for an optional coating to help with the bonding and longevity of the top coat for a total of $18,760. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

1. **Facility Use Requests:**

The Seacoast United High School Soccer group would like to use the Village Field for practice on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 from now until mid-June. It was approved providing they don’t move or remove the outfield fencing for the baseball field and that the HS baseball

team has first dibs on the use of the field.

Gilford High School would like to use the beach for a bonfire for their seniors. After much discussion it was decided to invite the HS Principal to come to our May meeting and Herb would forward our concerns to him prior to our meeting.

The Gilford Elementary School summer camp would like to use the beach on Friday afternoons during the summer as they have in the past. Tracey made a motion to accept this request, seconded by Rick provided the beach has adequate staffing. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Other Business:**

Next meeting will be held on May 3, 2021 at 5:30 and hopefully will be held at the Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam A. York

Secretary

Enclosure:

Director’s Report