

GILFORD PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

June 1, 2020

Present: Participating by zoom Herb Greene, Thom Francoeur, Tracey Blandford, David Smith, Lisa Manz-Buckley, Jim Glover, Peter Allen, and Miriam York

Excused: Rick Nelson

The meeting was called to order by Thom Francoeur at 5:30.

1. Tracey was appointed as a voting member.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the May 4, 2020 were unanimously approved by voice vote.

3. **Programs Update:**

Herb reviewed the Director's report – two planned summer programs have been canceled, they are the Funtastic Workshop and the Global Premier Soccer Camp. The Shooters Gold Camp is questionable due to a lack of available gym space. The swim program at the beach is also questionable until regulations come down from the Governor. Plans are to have the beach open and operating officially on June 20th.

4. **Gilford Old Home Day:**

The third OHD Committee meeting is scheduled for June 3rd and the Old Home Day is still scheduled for August 29, 2020 although no final decision has been made.

5. **Gilford Beach:**

The gate is open and is manned on the weekends and when the weather is nice. The bathrooms have been opened since the Selectmen voted to do so. Concern for sanitizing them is being dealt with. Sue King and Peter O'Flaherty have been manning the gate on weekends and when the weather is nice. There is a concern that they are working shifts by themselves and there is no phone in their building if they have any problems. Sue has done a great job of raking and cleaning up around the gate keepers area. The swim raft is scheduled to be put in the water on Friday. There is still one part time shortage for a lifeguard and two of the hirers are not certified yet due to facilities not open for testing. Herb hopes that the newly reconstructed lifeguard stand will be moved down to the beach this Friday. It is hoped that the other two lifeguard stands can be rebuilt next fall and winter.

The concession stand will be open this weekend. Signage will be in place for social distancing. The playground permit has been received and the equipment is being stored at DPW. The company needs to schedule the time when they can install the equipment. DPW will assist with the site-prep of the area once the install date is set.

6. Village Field:

The dugouts at the Francoeur Field have new concrete block works for the lower half of the dugouts and the rest of the construction should be undertaken shortly.

7. Facility closures:

The snow fencing at the Village Field BB court has been taken down due to damage. The closed signs are still in place

8. Facility Use Requests:

High school soccer teams requesting to use the field – okay as long as they follow the current regulations.

Summer Camp request to use the beach was approved providing they follow the social distancing guidelines that are in place.

9. Other business:

The trees at Lincoln Park were discussed and Herb explained the change in the rules as to what can be trimmed or cut. Set of stairs were repaired again.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10

Respectfully submitted:

Miriam A. York
Secretary

Enclosure: Directors Report

Director's Report for June 1, 2020

Programs

All Programming remains on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Summer Program Brochure is out with a limited number of summer programs and camps that we are still hopeful we'll be able to run this summer. We are still awaiting the official guidance from the Governor's office regarding summer day camps, which will likely influence our decision on whether to hold these programs and what, if any, modifications need to be made. Last I hear, the School District was also waiting on this information before deciding if their facilities would be available for program use. As of now, we are accepting registrations for the majority of our programs with the understanding that any fees collected will be refunded to participants if the activity is canceled. Most of these programs and registrations are available through our department website. We will continue to evaluate the situation and make cancelations as needed moving

Facilities

All playground equipment, swings and basketball courts at both the Village Field and the Town Beach remain closed and are posted as such. The tennis courts have been re-opened and have signage asking users to practice social distancing along with other recommended safety measures.

Staff members from DPW re-painted the majority of the picnic tables at the Town Beach, so they will be fresh and ready to go once we're able to safely make them available to the public.

The JIM Buoys that mark the outside of the swim area at the Town Beach have been put in. However, in an effort to discourage social gathering and reduce exposure to shared contact surfaces, we have not put the swim raft at this time.

We began opening the gate at the Town Beach on the Friday prior to Memorial Day. At this time, the bathrooms will remain closed. However, we do have on portable toilet on site for patrons to use at their own risk. We anticipate putting the swim lines out sometime the first week in June.

We have received our Shoreland Permit by Notification form NHDES for our beach playground project. The equipment has also been delivered and is currently being stored at DPW and we are just waiting on the playground vendor to schedule an installation date.

The Gilford Cal Ripken League has begun the construction of the new dugouts at the Francoeur Field, with the concrete work already completed. They hope to have the construction of these dugouts completed this season.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene, Gilford Parks and Recreation Director