

GILFORD PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

May 4, 2020

Present: Participating by zoom Herb Greene, Thom Francoeur, Peter Allen, Tracey Blandford, Rick Nelson, and Miriam York

Excused: Lisa Manz- Buckley, Jim Glover, and Dave Smith,

The meeting was called to order at 5:30.

1. Peter and Tracy were appointed as voting members.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the March 30, 2020 meeting were approved as written, with Rick Nelson, Thom Francoeur, Peter Allen, Tracey Blandford, and Miriam York all voting in favor.

3. Election of Officers:

Rick Nelson made a motion “to retain the current officers– Chairman Rick Nelson, Thom Francoeur as Vice Chairman, and Miriam York as Secretary for the 2020 – 2021 year”. The motion passed with Rick, Thom, Peter, Tracey, and Miriam all voting in favor.

4. Program Assistant Update:

Rick and Herb conducted an interview for the Program Assistant vacancy and felt the candidate would fit in well. After conducting a background check a conditional employment offer has been made with the understanding the job will not start until the hiring has been approved by the Board of Selectmen and things are up and running again.

5. Cal Ripken Requests Update:

The Stonewall Park scoreboard proposal was reviewed and the picture of the one (to be sponsored by PRB Construction in memory of Robert R. Blandford) was discussed. A motion was made by Rick Nelson and seconded by Thom Francoeur “To accept the scoreboard as shown”. Those voting in favor of the motion were Rick, Thom, Peter, and Miriam with Tracey abstaining. The motion passed.

6. Gilford Old Home Day (August 29, 2020)

The second meeting is scheduled for May 6th. It is hoped that by mid-June a decision will be made about holding OHD in August. The

checks that are coming in by vendors and advertisers will be held until that decision is made and will be returned if OHD is cancelled.

7. Beach:

Herb and Laura (Beach Manager) have interviewed lifeguards by zoom. There are still two vacancies to be filled. Those lifeguards who need to be recertified will be given a 120 day extension if they aren't able to get recertified due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The lifeguard stand that the Building Trades class was working on may be finished by the instructor or the Gilford Buildings and Grounds .

The Selectmen approved the playground equipment that the Commission voted on at the last meeting and a contract has been signed. It was agreed that Herb and the concession stand operator can sign the contract for the coming summer since it is a renewal.

8. Facility Closures Update:

With the Governor's 2.0 proclamation the tennis courts and the band stand can be reopened but no band concerts. Social distancing is to be adhered to.

9. Facility Use Requests:

The Dance Feet Studios would like to use the band stand for their pictures of the individual dancers. This will be held on May 30th or the 31st (rain date) from 11:00am until 6:00 pm. It was okayed by the Commission provided they adhere to social distancing and sanitizing.

10. Other Business:

Thom mentioned that Lincoln Park had survived the winter in good condition. Stairs are looking good.

The next meeting is scheduled for **June 1, 2020**

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam A. York
Secretary

Enclosure: Director's report

Director's Report for May 4, 2020

Programs

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to drastically impact our department, effectively bringing our programming to a standstill. The only activity we were able to run through the month of April was an Easter Art Contest. In addition to providing instructions for a do-it-yourself Easter Craft, we promoted an Art Contest for children up through the fourth grade. Participants were able to submit their entries through either email or mail. In all we had moderate participation and awarded prizes to a total of six children, two each in three different age groups. Unfortunately, all other activities that had been scheduled for the month were canceled. The School District has announced that that virtual learning has been extended and that all activities scheduled to take place in their facilities through the month of June have been canceled. We will continue to evaluate the situation and make cancelations as needed moving forward. The numbers for the programs we've run the past month are as follows:

- Adult Volleyball - Canceled
- Senior Moment-um Baseball Day – Canceled
- Senior Moment-um Union Diner Trip – Canceled
- Easter Art Contest – 14 Participants
- Flashlight Egg Hunt – Canceled
- Breakfast with the Easter Bunny - Canceled
- Senior Moment-um Easter Lunch Buffet – Canceled
- Senior Moment-um Mini Golf and Hart's Trip – Canceled
- April Vacation Fun Day – Canceled
- April Vacation Bus Trip – Canceled
- April Vacation Horsemanship Camp - Canceled

We've made the decision to cancel any programs we had been considering running through the month of May. Some programs scheduled through the month of June, such as the Granite State Track & Field Program have also already been canceled. That said, planning is moving forward for most some programs, beginning at the end of June. Our Summer Program Brochure is now completed and posted on the Department website.

Facilities

The final bob house was removed from the Town Beach in early April after NH Fish & Game helped us locate the owner. The gate has been locked since that time.

At their meeting on April 8th, the Board of Selectmen approved the Rec Commission's recommendation to close the playground equipment, swings, basketball court and tennis courts at the Village Field as well as the basketball court, playground equipment and swings at the Town Beach. They also added the closure of the bandstand at the Village Field. With the assistance of DPW, we have since locked the tennis gates, fenced off and/or caution taped the other facilities as well as posted signs regarding these closures.

At their meeting on April 8th, the Board of Selectmen also approved the Rec Commission's recommendation to accept the proposal from Paly & Park Structures for playground equipment and installation services for the project at the Town Beach. We have

since entered contract with them and have submitted an application to NHDES for a Shoreland Permit by Notification required for the project. Once the permit has been approved, we'll coordinate with the playground vendor to schedule installation.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene, Gilford Parks and Recreation Director