

Merrimack Parks and Recreation Committee Agenda  
Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Town Hall, Matthew Thornton Meeting Room  
OPENED - 7:00 pm

Attendance: Tracy McGraw, Chair; Matt Casparius, Director; Lon Woods, Town Council; Maureen Hall, Senior Citizens Club; Naomi Halter, School Board; Phil Przybyszewski, Member; Rick Grenier, MYA; David Shaw, Member

Excused: Christine Lavoie, Vice Chair; Cameron Gaumont, Student Representative; Laura Jaynes, Member.

Approval of Minutes from January 18, 2023 – 1<sup>st</sup>, Phil; 2<sup>nd</sup>, David Shaw (5-0-2)

Old Business

- Due to March meeting date, committee agreed to postpone March Parks and Recreation Meeting to March 22, 2023
- Update from Merrimack Dog Park – Balance \$1,693.59, need to discuss fill, clean up, and continued donations of poop bags
- Town Hall – reminder for dog licenses

Director's Report

- Town Council budget presentation went well.
  - Approved after school program for Thornton Ferry School for fall 2023
  - Approved full time position for Director of Naticook Day Camp & After School Program
  - Job description to be approved by Town Manager and then Town Council. Once approved, the job description is going out to obtain applications/resumes.
  - Money will come from revolving fund and nothing from tax payers
- Watson Park – Skating Rink
  - Only open 4 days this season – not expected to reopen before end of the season
- Summer Camp Registration
  - as of this date, already exceeded the number of registrations from last year at this time
  - 79% full; teen camp 85% full
  - 5<sup>th</sup> graders have choice between 2 camps
- Summer Hiring

- Hiring has been steady
  - Need more staff in order to open the wait list
  - Still looking for a camp counselor, waterfront director, lead teen camp, lifeguard, seasonal maintenance (PT 25 hrs/week, flexible)
- Murder Mystery Dinner
  - Was sold out
  - People enjoyed the event
  - May do against or change it up for Valentine's day next year
- Upcoming Special Events
  - 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Winter Carnival – Saturday, February 25th
    - Scheduled 26 vendors
    - MPD Comfort Dog, Mack, will be present with trainer
    - Oscar Meyer Wiener Mobile will be there
    - Several charitable organizations
- Organization Reports
  - MYA
    - Basketball, wrestling going on
    - Registration for softball, baseball, and soccer
    - Need more fields – but thankful to DPW, Elbit and Getinge for use of their fields and maintenance
  - Senior Citizens Club
    - Looking for a president of the organization
    - Lots of trips planned and signups received
    - Next trip is to ENCORE
    - A lot of couples are joining – but need more people
    - Dealing with a recent flood in the building at the O'Leary Center
  - School Board
    - School vacation is from 2/27/23 – 3/3/23
    - 2/16/23 – public hearing for school budget
    - 3/6/23 – deliberative session
  - Town Council
    - Parks & Recreation Budget discussion went well
    - Town Council had a positive response to hiring the new employee for after school program/camp director
    - Town Council deliberative session on 3/15/23 at JMUES
    - Town candidate registration open from 2/3/23 – 3/3/23
- ADJOURNED – 7:24pm, 1<sup>st</sup>, Phil; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Rick; (vote 7-0)