

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

April 15, 2021
Regular Meeting

Members Present: Erin Pittman, Sam Glesner, John Greenbaum and Andy Dapkins

Members Absent: Tammy Eads, Jessica Wilson and Duff Manweiler

Public Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Erin.

Minutes from the March meeting were approved by John, seconded by Sam, and the vote in favor was unanimous. (Minutes will be re-approved at the next meeting. Erin was not in attendance at the March meeting so we did not have a quorum for the approval.)

Public Comment: None

Recreation Report:

- The newsletter is being mailed April 16th. We have received numerous inquiries regarding programs and when registration starts. Parents seem to want to get their kids involved this summer.
- Pavilions rentals are very popular. Lots of birthday parties and other events being scheduled.
- Aquatics are still on hold. We have not received permission from the school to host any programs. Last week Department of Health increased the percentage for public bathing places to 75%. Zach at the school said Department of Education is still at 25% which would allow us to have only 17 people in the pool at a time. We have told him that our programs would not be a school sanctioned programs and this should allow us to have 51 people in the pool at one time since the pool occupancy is 68. Matt Brenner is also in contact with the owner of the Boiling Springs Pool to offer practice times for the swim team. This would not allow for any swim meets, just practice times. Sarah will reach out to Zach again to try to work something out. John, our school board liaison, doesn't understand the school's hesitancy and would like to be included in our correspondence with the school. Swim lessons will probably not be able to resume this summer as we don't have the qualified swim instructors/lifeguards on staff right now. If we can offer SMSC it may be open to residents only or returning swimmers.
- We have been hosting Pre-K and Pre-school this entire session, since September, with only 2 pauses for COVID related issues. We are now coming to the conclusion of both programs. The teachers have done a great job with the kids and following all the restrictions. Donna prepares a yearbook each year for the Pre-K class with this year's pictures including lots of masks. Pre-school's last day celebration will be held at the park. Pre-K's end of year celebration will include a visit to Jubilee Cake in Mechanicsburg to decorate cupcakes and the graduation ceremony will take place at the park.

- Donna has been invited to attend May Fair to promote our upcoming programs. The event will be held outside.

Parks Report:

- Park personnel have been very busy mowing. The parks are so busy they are finding it hard to get some of the areas mowed.
- All the athletic fields and high visual areas have been fertilized.
- Personnel have been spraying for broadleaf weeds.
- Park bathrooms are now open. There were major issues with one of the bathrooms requiring repairs before it could be opened.
- Performed maintenance on various areas in the admin and public works buildings.
- Andy asked about the dog leash laws for the parks as he is seeing many dogs not leashed. Trevor and Sarah explained the ordinance to him.
- Due to the good weather at the end of March the athletic fields opened early.
- A 10' x 100' pollinator garden will be created near the cell tower in Spring Meadows Park. Andy is looking for guidance from a master gardener to help in the selection of plants. Trevor offered to have soil samples done if necessary. A Girl Scout troop has volunteered to help with the planting. John has pollinator gardens on his property and offered plants.
- Andy gave some highlights from the last meetings of the Bluebird Club and the Habitat Club.

Old/New Business:

- A revised drawing was received from JMT for the Master Plan. This one includes two large diamond shaped fields and four smaller ones. It also includes moving the sand volleyball courts to the Yellow Breeches Park due to the flooding issues in the current location. They gave us an overview and will now add more of the passive areas to the drawing and then submit another draft for review.
- The development plan for Spring Meadows Park has developed an issue. A permit has been applied for that may take 6months or more to get. We may have to ask DCNR for an extension on this grant. We hope to complete it in 2021 however the permit issue may extend it until 2022.
- John asked if masks were to be worn by youth sports participants. It was noted that softball and baseball players were not wearing masks while soccer players were. Sarah said that officially they were all to be wearing masks, however since the youth sports organizations are private groups we can't make them follow the rules.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vickie Shatto