

**WESTON RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021**

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, modifying the requirements of the Open Meeting Law, the Recreation Commission, to ensure the safety of all participants, held its meeting remotely via Zoom webinar.

Members Present: Eric Rosenthal (Chair), Melissa Crocker, Julie Johnstone, Maija Cirulis-Gooch, Marcy Dorna and Adam King

Absent: Trevor MacDonald

Staff: Chris Fitzgerald (Director), Sharon Locke (Assistant Director)

Resident Comments: None

Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the May 6, 2021 and May 25, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved.

CPC Funding Request Update and Clarification

Marcy Dorna

The deadline for requesting CPS funding is Tuesday September 14, 2021. There are several items from the Recreation Master Plan that are eligible for CPC funding. Ms. Dorna would like the Recreation Commission to think in terms of items for adults such as an adult playground. She feels that adult recreational needs should be kept in the forefront of items. Mr. Fitzgerald and Ms. Crocker noted that the Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee was considering submitting an application for pickleball court feasibility/design. There was discussion about strategy, when to ask for which projects and by which committee, especially considering that Recreation is planning to ask for pool construction funds in the spring, if pool design gets completed by then.

Memorial Pool Renovation Design

Chris Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald and Ms. Locke recently took a tour of the new town of Needham Pool. BH&A designed the pool and Weston & Sampson did all the construction. They shared some of the design challenges that were reported, which mostly would have contributed to smoother operations:

- Consider sight lines for guards if changes are going to be made to the pool. If blind spots are added we would need to increase the number of guards which adds to ongoing costs.
- The slides are well liked by the users but require additional guards – 2 per slide, which adds to operational costs.
- Splash pad is very popular, it may have been beneficial to design it to be bigger.
- They included additional piping for possible water features to be added later, recommend we consider doing the same.
- A regenerative filter is in use instead of the more traditional sand filters, which they recommend we consider because of its effectiveness and the ease with which they can operate and maintain it.

Next, A discussion then took place among the recreation commission regarding the design proposals that were submitted on August 24, 2021. The commission spent time discussing, needs versus wants,

experience in renovation & repair versus new construction, experience working with community groups, whether or not the firms employ minorities and women, and which groups were active in the pre-bid process by touring the Memorial Pool and asking good questions. The Recreation Commission then spent some time discussing specific questions that could be asked at the combined Permanent Building Committee/Recreation Commission Meeting which will be held on September 8, 2021 where each design proposal will be presented. Mr. Fitzgerald asked the commission to email him any additional questions by August 30, 2021. A small working group consisting of Mr. Fitzgerald, Ms. Locke, Mr. King, Ms. Crocker and Mr. Rosenthal would meet to pare down questions ahead of a joint meeting with Permanent Building Committee that was being planned for September 8. The designers would present and be interviewed at the September 8 meeting.

Summer & Fall Updates

Chris Fitzgerald

There was higher than expected attendance all summer long at the Memorial Pool. Day Camps were still under strict Covid restrictions. A total of three camps were successfully held and one middle school day trip program. Camp enrollment was good and there was extremely positive feedback from the Weston residents regarding both the camps and the pool.

The Fall Brochure has been uploaded online. There will be no mailing of the brochure this year, it will only be online making it easier to make any last-minute changes caused by possible future Covid regulations. Patrons have gotten used to the brochure being online only over the past year and it also saves the department \$16,000 in cost as well as close to 700,000 pieces of paper. Red Waves, Skate Club, and Men's Basketball will be added into the brochure sometime in September once the recreation department is able to talk through the Covid restrictions with the Weston Public Schools and Rivers School.

Next Meeting:

Combined Meeting with the PBC – Wednesday September 8, 2021

Recreation Commission; September 15, 2021

Motion: Motion made to adjourn the meeting

Moved: Mr. King Second: Ms. Crocker

Roll Call Vote take; all in favor none opposed

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 am