

**WESTON RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021
7:00 PM VIA ZOOM WEBINAR**

*Pursuant to Gov. Baker's Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 modifying the requirements of the Open Meeting Law, the Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee, to ensure the safety of all participants, held its meeting remotely via Zoom webinar, link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85148271502>; webinar ID: 851 4827 1502.*

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), Lauren Smith (Program Coordinator)

Resident Comments:

Melissa Crocker: The RMPSC submitted a CPC funding request placeholder for Pickleball Court feasibility and design. There are three locations in the Recreation Master Plan identified for possible pickleball courts, the RMPSC also wants to look at Burchard Park and some place on Case Campus.

There was further discussion about pickleball, the role of RMPSC vs. Recreation Commission, who would manage and maintain the courts etc. Mr. Fitzgerald asked if there were any concerns from Recreation Commissioners before moving forward, no concerns were stated and all commissioners present supported the effort.

Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the August 27, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Memorial Pool Renovation Design Update

Chris Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald reported on the joint meeting between Recreation Commission and the Permanent Building Committee. All four design firms that submitted proposals were interviewed and ranked from most to least favorite. The Facilities Department and Town Manager have begun contract negotiations with the top choice. Mr. Fitzgerald added that there was no clear favorite, the rankings were very close. Once the contract is in place, the work will kick off with a working group meeting and progress from there.

Weston Community Center Signage

Chris Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that there is a desire, especially from members of the Council on Aging Board of Trustees, to have better signage to point out the Community Center and where the COA is located. He met with the COA director and Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager concerning this, roadway signs and internal signage was discussed. This is in initial discussion

phase but will probably progress in the coming months and will need Recreation Commission input, feedback, and approval depending on how it will impact the Community Center.

Building Rental Policy

Chris Fitzgerald

The Recreation Commission discussed a new pricing structure for Community Center rentals. During discussion, a question arose about the requirement of police detail for functions that serve alcohol and whether it can be waived in certain circumstances. Mr. Fitzgerald is to consult with the Town Manager.

General Programming Updates

Chris Fitzgerald

(Attached)

The Memorial Pool had very good numbers this summer. The addition of allowing Puddle-Jumpers/PFD Coast Guard approved lifejackets was hugely appreciated by parents. This summer saw zero rescues. The food tent with burgers and hot food was once again a huge hit.

Camp was very successful with good numbers and many compliments. The Cambridge School of Weston was a fantastic place to hold camp. The venue offered a lot of opportunity to the program.

There was a discussion about exploring additional adult programming at times outside of normal work hours. This has taken place in the past with mixed results but the staff committed to renewing the effort to offer adult options on evenings and/or weekends.

Future Meeting:

The next meeting will be Wednesday October 20, 2021 at 7:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 pm

Attachment 1: Recreation programming update.

- Fall after school programming is limited because of remaining bussing restrictions. Most programs have filled, wait lists have been formed. Masking will be required for all instructors and participants.
- Red Waves and Pre-Season Swim – Working with Board of Health on a new safety plan that would expand number of swimmers allowed compared to last year. Schools will allow to expand program if BOH agrees to a plan.
- Skating contract is almost finalized. Expect to expand the program compared to last year, still working on a new safety plan.
- Pickleball – some sections have filled; some sections still have openings. Continuing strong showing for this.
- Men’s Basketball will be forced to wear masks if taken place in Middle School as usual. A survey of previous participants shows that they will not want to play if forced to mask.
- Approached Regis College for pool space to expand Red Waves. Regis is not accepting outside groups right now.
- Weston Friendly Kids – formerly Weston Junior Broadway – is coming back starting November 30. Will rehearse Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Great Room, up to twenty two 4th and 5th graders on cast, will wear masks at all times, subject to change with positive trend in COVID numbers and on advice of Board of Health.
- Memorial Pool revenues – Preliminary numbers show increase of 43% compared to 2019; about even with 2017 levels.