

HAMPDEN PARKS & RECREATION
Regular Meeting Minutes, June 8, 2021
TOWN HALL

APPROVED July 27, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm.

Members Present – Eric Jacobson, Carrie Joseph, Dan Slattery, Dave Turcotte, Brett Castellano

Guests – Craig Rivest, Jeff Johnson

Review Minutes – Approved as written 4-0 with one abstention.

Public Comment – There was an update regarding lock combinations. Kristen received a call about the upkeep of the grounds at Memorial Park. Kerry Skillin called and asked to rent the field at Memorial Park on Sunday from 9:30-11:30 for the U10 Western Mass Heat team. Eric J. made a motion to approve the use of the field and to charge \$25/hr for practice and \$50/hr for a game. Dan 2nd, all in favor 5-0. If it is a game, we will line the field.

Review Bills & Payroll – All bills approved.

Memorial Park– People are getting in the park before opening. We need a key for trash. Eric made a motion to hire Kyle Turcotte from interim to seasonal part-time maintenance position. This was approved 4-0 as Dave abstained from voting. Kristen will send Brett a copy of Marty’s notes on the park. The Spray Park is not turning on and at this time we’re not sure what’s causing it and if it could be the sand, chlorine, or if it’s still a pressure issue. Dave and Brett will look at the Spray Park in the morning. Jason Walbridge gave a quote for replacing the well cover. Eric J. made a motion to accept his bid to replace the cover. Dan 2nd, all in favor 5-0.

Job Posting – The department is still looking to hire for the summer program and will need to post employment applications for counselors and CIT’s on the town website.

Baseball – Ask that Kristen please contact Erin (Wilbraham) about the Blue Sox and a clinic they are offering. Jeff had some ideas to try to keep the baseball players playing beyond T-Ball. This includes the Blue Sox clinic and maybe a partner practice with Minnechaug players. Have a “booth” at Green Meadows during Open House.

RAH – Jeff is interested in starting RAH up again and will try to get 4 or more people to join. Dave will help with the transition.

Spring Sports - Dan made a motion to approve the Futsol flyer, Eric 2nd, all in favor 5-0. The school department is mowing the soccer fields but not the baseball fields at TWB. We will see if they would be able to mow all the fields. Soccer is going well. All games end this Sunday. In the future maybe buy socks with registration fee and we can use the uniforms we already have.

Men’s Basketball – Has started practices at TWB.

Coaching Documents – Jeff and Brett will create a skills and drills document for new coaches.

Summer Program – Need to calculate a new pay rate for the counselors which includes a raise.

Programming Outside of Sports – tabled until next meeting

Future Program Ideas- Keep TWB gym free on August 28th for a class reunion. Send the gazebo rental request to the BOS. Eric made a motion that if Parks and Rec oversees the gazebo, we will rent it out free for Hampden residents and charge \$65 for non-residents. 2nd by Dan, all in favor 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm. Next meeting is scheduled for June 23.