

Recreation Advisory Board Minutes 2/17/2022

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ORLEANS TOWN CLERK
S. C. Sess
'22 MAR 21 8:02AM

Virtually Held Meeting

Called to Order at: 6:01 PM

Attendees: Tracy Murphy, Anne Sigsbee, Sharon Basso, Kyle Wibby, Carol Counihan, Joan Francolini, Chad Small, Morgan Stewart

Recreation Director - Alan Harrison

Nauset Regional High School Representative - Will Bilowz

Public Comment: None

Approve Minutes of January meeting:

Anne 1st, Tracy 2nd – unanimously approved

Director's Report: Submitted in advance

- Very strong winter programming, well attended games
- Sharon questioned the adult fitness attendance, Alan commented that the program is outside not held in the DPW unless there is inclement weather.
- Feb. vacation recreation plans include ice skating
- Followed up on Jan. 20th meeting and found that High School Basketball has 50 boys try out and 42 made the team, 22 girls tried out and all made the team. Alan said it is not feasible to hold basketball for high school students.

Tracy asked about using the gym for basketball in between seasons. Alan said with no further increase in staff that this would not be possible.

Chad asked about partnership with the skating rink. Alan said it is possible but not in the immediate future.

Kyle commented that we need to support increasing the size of the Recreation Staff, and that is where we need to focus our efforts right now. Adding another position would make more things possible.

Tracy said RAC fully supports the addition of another employee and increasing Alan to 40 hours a week.

Sharon agreed, and asked about the Open Gym, as the town had it before. March 5-April 20, big hole except for Adult Fitness. Alan said he could not do any programming at this time as he is working on hiring for the summer and the Spring programs.

- Spring Registration will be posted the last week of Feb and only residents will be able to register for the first 10 Days, per Alan.
- Alan clarified how the gyms at the elementary school and middle school are allocated. He fills in a form and is told what spots are available to him to use.
 - Middle School - 6:15pm is the earliest time available regardless of the night
 - Elementary School - 5:30 is the earliest time available regardless of night. And Nauset Youth Basketball has the gym M, T, TH and F.

- Alan just doesn't think there is sufficient space for the town. If there was space he could run more programming for basketball.
- Survey
 - Kyle is working with Alan on improving the survey. Need to be able to ask an open ended question.
 - Committee Survey - Tracy proposed a survey. Joan recommended getting input from other groups in town. Anne wanted clarity on current programming timing and input from families.
- Prep for Select Board
 - Response to budget priorities

Action Item: Alan will prioritize the list of activities he would add to REC if an employee is added and if he gets an extra 5 hours.

- Questions/response to list provided on RAC requests
 - Skateboard Clinic: Alan will see if Knuckleheads are available
 - Half Day programming: Morgan stated that Eastham limits the number of students that can attend, cycling through grades.
 - Alan stated he would work on the 5 year plan, but there was lack of clarity on who owns the plan.
- Charge Draft
 - Communication part is oddly written, but Tracy said it was consistent with what the town wanted.
 - Motion to approve draft: Anne - 1st, Joan - 2nd unanimously approved.
- Community Life Position - Anne asked to keep it in front of the Select Board. Get guidance from Judi Wilson and Library staff. Independent person who stands below the Town Administrator, organizes a community center without walls, coordinator of Human Services throughout Orleans.
- RAC agreed that this is not the priority right now, but an important topic to plan for right after REC gets the approval for increased staff and hours.

CPC Updates:

- Master Plan on Eldredge – Approved by CPC for funding. Tracy had positive conversations with the Regional School Committee & OES.
- Storybook Trail: Morgan stated that it is in a soft opening period and a Kick-Off will be planned for April break.
- Kayak Racks: Anne talked to Nate Sears and was told that we could wait for a fee schedule. The fees will piggyback on the mooring fees. Chad agreed to be part of the team and will help develop protocols for the program - lottery and rental, communication plan with residents. By fall of 2022, finalized plan with communication to town in Feb/March of 2023. Shellfish & Waterways working with Anne, as they might want to tweak the sites.

John Avellar Circle follow-up:

Tracy went to the HAC meeting with Carolyn Witt. There is mixed support for allowing the basketball hoop. The hoop is available for free, HAC is concerned about liability. Carolyn and her husband are following up.

Future Agenda Items:

- Community Center Update

Motion to adjourn – Joan 1st/ Tracy 2nd motion - unanimously 7:02pm

Next meeting – March. 17th, 6:00pm