

Town of Warren Parks and Recreation
Meeting May 18, 2020
Minutes

Attendance:

Commission Members present: Dave Schneiderbeck, Kirby Mullen, Don Murphy, Zach Githens, Brian Calhoun, Kathy Andreasen.

Members of the Public Present: Ruth Schnell, Adam Crane, Joanne Marsh, Kathy Newton, Larry McChesney, Herman Tammens, Tiffany Parkhouse, SHanley

First Selectman: Tim Angevine

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm

Review of Minutes: Motion to accept by Dave, Second by Zach, The minutes were approved.

Upcoming events: Memorial Day - the parade and plans were cancelled. Park and Rec has tried to promote the fact that people should try to decorate their homes with a patriotic theme. Don will help out with the vets.

Warren Town Beach: The decision to open rests with the Board of Selectmen - Park and Rec doesn't know when the decision will be made and when it will open. When we get the information we will post it on the Town website and passes will be for sale. There are changes on a constant basis. Tomorrow morning the First Selectman will be on a call with the Governor's office specifically about beaches. Don has been on calls with other Park and Rec Departments - guidance is being offered from a lot of different sources. Towns are doing different things - so it comes down to the Town.

Holiday on the Hill: We are lacking a good tree for being decorating for the holidays. We were looking at a tree near the field but it has a lot of holes, etc. Don has been looking around for trees to plant on Sackett Hill. He believes we need a spark right now.

Discussion: could we start with a smaller tree that would get established. A small tree can be interesting and kids can see it grow. Dave mentioned that Tim could tell us where to get a tree. Don said he's looking at a tall tree (around 30 feet). The question is how much money is involved. Our window for planting is the fall and we'll see if anyone in Warren has one to donate. Don had found a tree - a 32 foot Norway Spruce, it will cost approximately \$7500. But it will also take money to move it (approx \$4200 and that includes the one year guarantee and site visits). The money will not come from Town money. It would come from money raised by Park and Rec.

The Community Center - the issue of sound proofing has come up. About 4 years ago, we looked at pricing for sound proofing the community center. At that time, the drop we got a quote

from, they weren't able to tell us how much it would reduce the noise. We know that sub paneling will not help the noise. There other ways to install sound proofing. Even though we might now be able to quantify the noise reduction, whatever we do will help.

Dave raised the issue that other than Holiday on the Hill, that room doesn't get used that often. That is one reason we didn't move forward last time. Dave said if the room got used a lot more, he'd be in favor of spending the money for it. If there was better sound proofing, we could potentially have double booking of rooms in the Community Center and the space could be used a lot more.

But, we also need to remember that we can't use the space right now due to the coronavirus. Until there's a vaccine, it will be mostly empty. Kathy has had experience booking a resource similar to the community room. Perhaps we need a sub committee to look at this issue to make it more accessible - the subcommittee can make recommendations.

Kirby, Zach, Kathy and Don will get together to make some recommendations for the room to see if we can make it more accessible for residents. We can also look at the cost structure.

Programs:

1. Juke Box Bingo has gone well - there were 2 winners from Warren
2. Three Town mileage count - the question is whether Team Warren is going to win!!! There are over 60 people participating. The response has been incredible. Don encouraged the seniors to get involved. The performance has been fantastic and the program has been well received. It closes on Wednesday. We will then come up with a bike challenge.
3. Trivia night went well.
4. We had flowers for seniors. Missy, Don and Tim delivered flowers to a fair number of seniors. We'll have another program and get people we missed. It was a very nice program and it was appreciated.
5. Outdoor Movie - we are still waiting to see if it will be approved, as well as miniature golf
6. People are taking advantage of Carla's fitness class on line.

Public Comment:

1. The Park & Rec and Social Services relationship was raised.
2. A member is glad there will be gate guards at the beach especially if there won't be a life guard - this is a year we'll need to be checking tags and permits. The beach is a great Town asset and needs to be protected.

Kirby moved to adjourn the meeting, Dave seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

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