

Town of Warren Parks and Recreation
Meeting June 22, 2020
Minutes

Attendance:

Commission Members present: Dave Schneiderbeck, Kirby Mullen, Don Murphy, Kathy Andreasen, Sarah Churyk

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm

Review of Minutes: Motion to accept the Wednesday May 27, 2020 minutes and Tuesday June 9 was made by Kathy, Dave seconded and the Commission approved the minutes.

1. Rebecca Neary from the Warren Land Trust spoke to the Commission about a letter of Support about two grants The Land Trust applying for and need our support. State of CT Energy and Environmental Protection for two conservation projects that are quite significant. The projects are dependent on receiving these grants. a. Tanner Farm - 201 acres of farm and wood land. Partnering with the Weantinogue Land Trust and Lake Waramaug Task Force. The grant would support fine tuning the trail system at the back of the property and connect it to other trails. It would enhance recreational opportunities and there is potential for wheel chair access. b. Cunningham Road - 250 acres that is wooded. There are a number of homesteads and it adjacent to other land preserves. It would add up to over 800 acres of preserved property. This property is also of interest to Park and Rec because of the trail system that is already in place. There is also a potential picnic area that is potentially wheel chair access. The Land Trust is asking Park and Rec for two letters of support for these projects. To add them to the Town's portfolio of open spaces is a big opportunity. Kathy moved that Park and Rec write two letters of support for the Warren Land Trust for their grant applications Kirby seconded the motion and the Commission approved the motion.

2. Financial Report: Park and Rec has approximately \$70,000 in their account.

3. Upcoming Events:

a. Concerts: July 11- Don suggests we move that back to give us more breathing room because the third phase with the state is more towards the end of the month. The other concerts can probably stand.

b. Cycling contest: Team Warren finished first in the cycling contest. We didn't have as many participants as with the walking challenge. It was a very positive event. We are going to continue it next year.

c. Stay safe and have fun program - there are many suggestions of things for people to do and there are prizes at the end.

d. We are trying to schedule a drive-in movie at Wamogo high school.

e. We are thinking of adding the "Front Steps" program - taking pictures of people at their homes on their front steps. This was a little more relevant during the "lock down." People would make a donation to the Food Bank for having their picture taken. This will probably happen in July.

f. Beach: gate guards have been going about 12-7. We've had a fair number of people at the beach. It has been active and there is a plan for lifeguard training and we will come up with a plan for having lifeguards on duty. Kit did a very nice job with the planting along the new fence that was put in. It looks nice. As the plants mature it will tone down the fence. The lawn looks great and we have to do some long-range planning regarding the trees.

Our rules state that people shouldn't have trailers - however, people put kayaks and paddle boards on trailers instead of on top of their car. It does not compromise parking. Kathi suggested we give the owners a heads up that they might be asked not to have a trailer there so they aren't surprised. Perhaps we should be thinking about a kayak rack. It would make things easier for residents. The beach seems to be working well so far. People are behaving and the gate guards are doing their jobs.

g. The soccer goal was ordered. It meets all standards and is a practice goal. It was about \$1200.

h. We might have to implement a signup system for the beach on the 4th of July to make sure we stay within the required numbers. We will need to look at what

numbers are within the regulations and will keep safe and then look at a sign-up system to make sure we don't have too many people.

Public Comment:

1. Judy - commented that the kayak rack would be a great idea because it would be wonderful for people who can't lift their kayaks up onto the top of their cars.

Kathi moved to adjourn the meeting, Dave seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm.

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