Board of Recreation Meeting

Monday, May 21, 2018

Community Center

6:00pm

1. Call to Order: M. Phillips called the meeting to order @ 6:00.
2. Roll Call: Present: J. Hallbergh, M. Phillips, J. Milliard, C. Dunn, T. Mason, M. Johndrow, Council Liaison Lynn LaBerge, Absent: H. Flexer
3. Citizen’s Participation: N/A
4. Correspondence: N/A
5. Adoption of Minutes: J. Hallbergh made the motion to accept the minutes for the February 2018 meeting L. LaBerge seconds. No further discussion passes unanimously.
6. Unfinished Business:

a . Budget Update: Town and school budget passed town wide vote. Capital Outlay is what KPRD lost within the process.

b. Theatre Board:

i. Show in May: “A Funny Thing Happened” did okay as far as numbers of attendance were concerned. There was an expected loss on the show but the gain was getting new people to join the theater J. Hallbergh attended the show and said it was very good.

ii. Seasonal Position: Heidi Freeman-Trail: Heidi has a good background within theater and is new to the area. Heidi comes with great knowledge and ideas and T. Mason believes she will fit in nicely with the existing but still newly formed Theater Board. Everyone is enthusiastic and busy planning a next season.

1. New Business:
   1. Park Seasonal Positions: Michael LeBeau /May 14th –end of August. Michael Hill/ June 11th-until mid-November.
   2. Discussion of Smoking Policy: The smoking policy has been revisited based on previous citizen concern. T. Mason shared this time of year the park crew begins to repaint etc. including the no smoking sign. Board discusses the intent is to not have people smoke and reviewed why the Council had not agreed to make an ordinance. A main concern is who would enforce the policy. The Board agrees the smoking issue is challenging, hopefully the signage and our best efforts to negate people smoking in crowded areas where children are will somewhat effective.
   3. Surveys:
      1. Completed for programming: T. Mason explains utilizing the survey monkey website has been useful. The department is not using the website for every program, more for larger and newer programs. We have received some helpful feedback.
      2. Discussion on possibilities: T. Mason explains the website does not have to be limited for programming. The department is hopeful to use it for parks/facilities as well. We welcome ideas from the board as to information they may wish to receive through this venue.
   4. Staff classed/training: The office, park, full and part time staff are trained in CPR. Staff on both the park and recreation side have been attending and taking online courses that are not only specific in customer service but other areas that may impact the department. The recreation department also participated in the aggressive assailant class. This really brought to light how susceptible the community center is. Discussion also took place regarding issues with homeless and other induvial starting to roam the building. There are some concerns how it may affect the safety of those utilizing programming.
   5. Building: Discussion with board took place regarding support for the department to investigate and research the possibly of construction of a new building for the community center. T. Mason shares the cost to upkeep the building over the next 4-5 years and the predicted cost along with many items that still have yet to come. Potential thoughts are to have a metal building with ample room to facilitate programming of the department, as well as options of rentals and leagues that would absorb some of the operating budget. The recreation board is in full support to continue to look at options and see if this is something the town council may want to continue to look into and support. J. Milliard recommends the department speak/visit with Putnam Ford (Rick Place) regarding possible metal building in regards to research for new community center.
   6. Summer Update: Fireworks is just about fully funded as is Bike Night for this year. Discussion on parachutist for the fireworks event and Bike Night. This year Bike Night is being held a day after the Middletown event. Middletown rescheduled their event this year, since our date was set to be the third Thursday in August we will not be changing. The department does not expect too much of an impact.
2. Director’s Report: a. Spring classes/ program review: bus trip to Boston, spring programs such as Fun Run and April vacation camp have been great. We have received many positive feedbacks for our programs. This past weekend’s corn hole tournament was also a success despite being moved indoors, there is good momentum to move forward with additional corn hole programming.
3. Other:
   1. J. Hallbergh asked about electrical issue at Owen Bell from last year. T. Mason shares they should be fixed with capital project funds this year, closer to the fall to avoid summer programming. C. Dunn asked how CITs at camp might be compensated with possible sponsor money used to pay or purchase gift certificates. T. Mason discusses CIT compensation comes in the form of receiving volunteer hours for high school, a place to be during the summer, and opportunity to learn and gain experience for possible hire for the following year. Cost of CIT trips are paid for as well. C. Dunn also asked about being told he couldn’t register online for camp. T. Mason responds it may have been miscommunication, yes you can register for camp online for an additional fee. J. Hallbergh inquired how the carnival went. Some issues not cleaning up and having a broken ride left for approx. two weeks after the event. Reasons to note as to why there is a charge for the space.
4. Liaison Report: Board of Ed. N/A

Town Council: The council voted to set a public hearing and special town meeting for an ordinance authorizing the sale of Town owned property at 44 Pleasant View Dr.

The Council also voted to set a public hearing on two ordinances: one for regulating bingo games and the other for regulating bazaars and raffles. The state is no longer going to do this and so the towns have had to come up with regulations for them.

A motion passed authorizing the creation of the Town of Killingly Pension Trust and appointing Hooker &Holcombe Investment Advisors as advisors of the Town’s pension trust. H&H have a website Pension Edge Plus that employees will be able to access to get information about their pension and Schwab has more types of companies to choose from than did Prudential.

The council decided that they would like a charter revision commission formed. They were tasked with going through the charter and coming up with 3 or 4 items they would like to see discussed for change.

The council also discussed the formation of a long-term steering /vision commission. Frank Aleman had approached the council about he and will be contacted about his ideas for forming the commission.

1. Adjourned: Motion made by C. Dunn to adjourn. L. LaBerge second, no further discussion, meeting adjourned @ 7:15 pm.