

Weathersfield Parks & Recreation Commission
Wednesday, March 6th, 2024
1879 Schoolhouse, 1862 Route 106

Board members present: Olivia Savage, Nichole Gagnon, Patience Bearse and Julia Gumbart

Board members absent: Ray Stapleton, Amy Beth Main

Public present: Sean Meisner, Joe Bublat, Ellen Clattenburg

Nichole called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Comments From Public Not on the Agenda

Ellen Clattenburg attended as a representative from the Conservation Commission. First, Ellen discussed the Conservation Commission's desire to replace undesirable trees in public areas with species that would be better suited. Areas for this included Hoisington Field and the Center Grove. Potential species to plant include hybrid butternut, thornless honey locust, black walnut, hickory, and white oak. The Board discussed and supported this initiative. Second, Ellen discussed the Conservation Commission's desire to place an interpretive sign at Murray Park (adjacent to the Salmond Covered Bridge). The interpretive sign would cover the topics of flora, fauna, and history. She is expecting the sign to cost about \$700 and is exploring grant options, as well as seeking funds from the Parks & Recreation Commission. Julia motioned for the Parks & Recreation Commission to support the Conservation Commission's efforts to install an interpretive sign at Murray Park. Seconded by Olivia. No discussion. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Patience made a motion to approve the minutes from 2/7/24, seconded by Olivia. No discussion. All in favor.

Recreation Festival

Nichole shared the Town's large assembly ordinance and shared the requirements that the town manager has in order to sign off on written permission: parking plan, sanitation facilities arrangements, and clean-up plan.

Parking Plan: Olivia suggested that one Board member should be present to direct parking in the park. Nichole suggested that we hire a shuttle for the vendors to free up spaces. Sean and Joe suggested parking on nearby roads. Joe suggested that we rent a paint striper to make temporary spaces in the lot to be most efficient with the space there is.

Sanitation: There was discussion surrounding the need for a second port-a-potty for the event. The Board agreed that this would be needed.

Clean-up: The Board will spend time after the event cleaning up any left behind trash. The town manager can provide direction for where it should be disposed of.

Sean was present tonight to share the development of the 5K portion of the event. The suggested name for the race is the “Quarry Quad Crusher” and will start at the pink house on the corner of Route 106 and travel 1.5 miles up to the high point of the road before turning back down. The race will start at 7:30 AM and he anticipates it being over around 8:30 AM. He is hoping for around 50 participants. Sean noted that money raised from the race will go to the Springfield High School cross country team.

Food trucks were discussed next. Nichole has secured a truck with grilled sandwiches and rice bowls, and Patience will work on finding a truck that sells ice cream.

Fishing Derby

Nichole shared that there are 9 kids signed up for the event. The Board will need to find a tent and banner before the event. Joe will bring his PA system (if it is operational) and emcee the event.

Yard Sale

So far there are 8 people registered.

Friends of Hoisington Field

Through Facebook, Nichole has compiled a contact list of folks interested in supporting Hoisington Field.

Logo

Julia motioned to accept the logo that Patience had made. Seconded by Olivia. There was discussion around if the color scheme should match the Town’s, but it was decided that it wasn’t necessary. All in favor.

Patience noted that we could get a 3'x6' banner for around or under \$125, and shirts for \$11.50 apiece but with a minimum of 36. It was decided that we will explore a more economical option for getting a smaller amount of shirts printed.

Topics Not on the Agenda

Olivia shared that the State accidentally plowed into the rocks surrounding the Tenney Memorial Park stump.

Adjourn

Olivia motioned to adjourn at 7:46 PM. Seconded by Julia.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6:30 PM at the 1879 Schoolhouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Gumbart

Approved on: _____ by: _____