

Woodstock Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 8, 2019

Present: Crystal Adams (Director), Otto Anderson, Sarah Bentley, Erika Cornelius Smith, Beach Baywood (Guest)

Absent: Amy Monahan, Marie Chamberlin

Next meeting: May 13, 2019 @ 7:00P (Woodstock Town Hall, Meeting Room C)

Meeting called to order by Director Adams at 7:05PM.

Minutes from March 11, 2019 meeting approved with minor revisions.

1. Recreation Director Report

Director Adams provided an update on the status of current programs, upcoming programs, past events, and possible future programs to members of the Woodstock Recreation Commission (WRC).

Current Programs:

The Italian language, cooking, and culture class is full. Given the high level of interest, the Director will discuss the option of offering a similar program for adults.

The Spring Yoga program has a full class (16 registrations) and will move to the Woodstock Middle School (WMS) cafeteria in May.

Kids Yoga at Woodstock Elementary School (WES) had 12 students enrolled for session I and 9 students enrolled for Session II. Given the positive feedback and interest in the program, the Director will discuss brining a 4-week session to WMS in May.

Adult quilting, basketball, and volleyball programs are ongoing.

Fitness Boot Camp has started and is offered on Tuesdays (10:30A, 45 minute class). Attendance has been inconsistent but participants have given positive feedback about the program so far.

WRECK at WMS will wrap up Session I this week. Session II begins after spring break, and strongest participation is from 5th and 6th grade boys.

The April Babysitting training class is full with a wait-list, similar to previous offerings. Another session will be offered in July (2019) in the evenings.

The Director discussed that more announcements for WRC programs are coming through e-mail at WMS and paper flyers are distributed in folders at WES. New communication system appears to be working and reaching parents.

Upcoming Programs:

HIIT High-intensity Interval Training) fitness classes will begin Thursdays in May.

The Director is exploring the possibility of a WRECK program for WES.

Kids Yoga will be offered at WMS and the course capacity has been raised to 15 (versus 12 student limit at WES).

Squirt Soccer will be offered again in May; flyers were distributed to WES and local care centers.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 13th @ 1:00PM (rain date April 14th), and flyers have been distributed in WES folders and local pre-school care centers. Woodstock Academy students will assist with filling the eggs.

The Director informed the committee that the Earth Day Clean-up event is scheduled for April 27th (8A-12P) with the option to participate any time between April 12th and May 12th. The Last Green Valley grant was used to purchase pickers, bags, vests, gloves, and other supplies needed for clean-up. A "Dos and Donts" flyer with liability release is available for participating individuals and groups. Groups and individuals with small children will be directed to school grounds, fields, and parks for safe pick up sites. John Navarro from the Highway Department will partner with Rec Commission to see that bags are picked up. The Director will use a map to mark and track efforts. The WRC will use the Roseland Park as a check-in site for registration and providing some refreshments (bottles of water, donuts, coffee, etc.). Members of the WRC will volunteer to assist with check-in and the Director has reached out to local civic organizations (Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts 4-H, and so on) to provide details about the event.

Planning for the Memorial Day weekend Road Race (May 27th) is underway, and the WRC is using targeted Facebook ads, online forums, and print media to share information for interested participants.

The Town Wide Tag Sale will be held on June 8th with a rain date of Sunday, June 9th

Summer Concert planning has started. The first concert on June 7th will be a Woodstock showcase night, including local school jazz bands and the Woodstock Rail Line. The July 12th concert will feature Strange Alliance and the early August concert will feature the 18-piece Al Fenton Band.

A Bronx Zoo Bus trip will be offered on June 22nd and the price includes zoo shuttles and monorail. An advertisement was posted in the Shopper's Guide last week.

Senior Fitness programs continue to be under development. Melissa Amlaw will started senior fitness Wednesday, April 10th. Residents have also expressed an interested in Essentrics and the Director is currently looking for a certified instructor to offer a program.

BUTI Yoga will be offered by Shelly Olm starting in mid- to late-May or June 2019.

Past Events:

Winter Yoga and Kids Yoga Session I have ended.

Possible Programs:

The Director proposed for discussion new program offerings for youth and adults that include –life skills courses, running clubs; future partnerships with neighboring communities to offer bus trips, and the development of walking trails near WMS. The Director and Commission will continue to develop these ideas for 2019, with the exception of the walking trails (due to noted drainage issues in the grounds surrounding WMS).

2. Discussion and Citizen Comments

As guest, Beach Baywood discussed opportunities to bring pickleball to Woodstock as a recreation program. As WRC and local schools discuss resurfacing the tennis courts, there may also be an opportunity to gather estimates on adding pickleball lines to courts. Ms. Baywood has contacts for instructors to help teach pickleball and could host open clinic this summer and charge nominal fee to cover costs of nets and supplies. The group discussed researching grants that could fund youth involvement, particularly since the sport has expanded in many of our neighboring communities (Putnam, Sturbridge, Tolland, Milford, and neighboring communities in CT).

Meeting adjourned at 7:47P.

Respectfully submitted by Erika Cornelius Smith, April 10, 2019.