

Woodstock Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 11, 2019

Present: Crystal Adams (Director), Sarah Bentley, Marie Chamberlin, Amy Monahan, Erika Cornelius Smith, Brandy LaBonte (Guest)

Absent: Otto Anderson

Next meeting: April 8, 2019 @ 7:00P (Woodstock Town Hall, Meeting Room C)

Meeting called to order by Director Adams at 7:04PM.

Minutes from February 11, 2019 meeting approved.

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 will begin on March 11th. The course is enrolled nearly to capacity. Given the high level of interest, the Director will discuss the option of offering a similar program for adults.

The Winter Yoga program has a full class with a waiting-list for Session I and Session II is nearly full.

Adult quilting, basketball, and volleyball programs are ongoing.

Upcoming Programs:

The Director will verify the available space for spring yoga. Given the size of the class, a larger space may be needed.

Fitness Boot Camp will start March 12th. HIIT Fitness classes will begin Thursdays in May.

The new WRECK program, coordinated by Brandy LaBonte and Mr. Mayhew will begin at Woodstock Middle School. Ms. LaBonte provided an update on the program for the committee.

Squirt Soccer will be offered again in May.

A self-defense program in partnership with Quest Martial Arts, Kristan Duthorn, and Woodstock Academy will be offered on March 28th.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 13th and flyers will be distributed in Woodstock Elementary School (WES) folders.

Planning for the Memorial Day weekend Road Race has started.

The Town Wide Tag Sale will be held on June 8th and additional information is forthcoming.

Summer Concert planning has started. The Director is meeting with other individuals involved in planning to review dates for June, July, and August, and select performers, some of which she was able to preview at the Parks and Rec in event.

The Director informed the committee that Woodstock has been awarded the Last Green Valley grant (\$500.00) to support the Earth Day Clean-up event. It is tentatively scheduled for April 27th with a rain date of April 28th. The grant will be used to purchase pickers, bags, vests, gloves, and other supplies needed for clean-up. 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 discussed using the Roseland Park Pavilion 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 will reach out to local civic organizations (Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts 4-H, and so on) to provide details about the event. Additionally, the Director is working on developing a participation form and liability waiver for volunteers to sign at check-in.

Past Events:

Winter Yoga is wrapping and Spring Yoga planning is underway.

Ski Club is now finished, including all make up snow days. The program was full with a wait-list.

Recreation K-4 basketball ended on March 9th and Recreation 5-8 grade basketball will be ending soon. Girls and Boys 5-6th grade teams were undefeated and Girls 7-8th grade team made finals. The WRC discussed possibly starting the next season earlier, even before Thanksgiving at the request of the coaches.

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).

Ms. Bentley inquired about additional senior program offerings. A running clinic was discussed, as well as creating a portal or “Seniors Corner” on the WRC website that provides more information about current program offerings.

The Director is coordinating with the Pomfret Recreation Department on a shared trip to Boston to see the Red Sox (anticipated June 22nd).

2. Discussion and Citizen Comments

None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55P.

Respectfully submitted by Erika Cornelius Smith, March 18, 2019.