

MINUTES

Woburn Recreation Commission

Date/Time: 1/5/2023

@6:28pm Meeting called to order by Kevin Lonergan

In Attendance:

Kevin Lonergan, Maura Embler, Michael Martini, Brian Nagle, Joseph Daly, and Lou DiMambro.

Election of New Chairperson

Michael Martini made a motion to appoint Maura Embler as the Chairperson for 2023. Seconded by Kevin Lonergan; unanimous decision.

Michael Martini made a motion to suspend regular order of business for hearings.

Hearings:

Skate Park Concerns: Kathy Emmeret, lives at Library Place, and is voicing concerns about the Skate Park being placed at Library Field. There are picnics, bird watching, and a place for the residents that live at Library Place in the location that is prospective for the Skate Park.. Kathy would like to see that area used as a park with benches, picnic tables, and shade coverage. She is supportive of the kids in Woburn having a place to play, but would like consideration for other locations to be used for a Skate Park. She has also placed her concerns on the Facebook Woburn Residents page as well. Kevin asked Kathy about how many people use this area? Kathy expressed that there is a lot of passive recreation used in this specific location. The commission communicated that alternative locations are being looked at as well.

Michael Martini made a motion to return back to the agenda, seconded by Kevin Lonergan and Joseph Daly.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Michael Martini to approve the minutes of the December 2022 meeting. The Motion was seconded by Kevin Lonergan; approved unanimously.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Michael Martini to approve the Recreation bills for the month of December 2022; seconded by Kevin Lonergan and Joseph Daly; approved unanimously.

Michael Martini made a motion to approve the Park Departments bills for the month of December 2022. Motion was seconded by Kevin Lonergan and Joseph Daly; motion passed unanimously.

Communications:

Study for the Feasible use of Middlesex Canal: Brian asked if everyone had received contact about a survey for the feasible use of the Middlesex Canal. Lou DiMambro added commentary about the former use of the Canal, and the current state being overgrown and debris accumulation. Conversation continued about having other recreation spaces within Woburn where Horn Pond has become popular.

Mike Dever - Blues for Veterans - September 15-17, 2023. Friday would be for setup, all day Saturday, and then Sunday for the break down. Kevin Lonergan made a motion to accept Mike Dever's Blues festival for the 15th-17th of September, seconded by Michael Martini; passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Approval of Softball Tournaments

Michelle and Paul Greene Tanner Pride Softball Tournament August 4-6th; Veterans, Gonzales, and Library. Gonzales would have to have games start at 9am or later. Michael Martini made a motion to approve the Tanner Pride Softball Tournament August 4th-6th, 2023. Kevin Lonergan seconded; all in favor.

Easter Mass Panther Softball - May 19th -21st Library, Gonsalves and Veterans; with the stipulation that Gonzalez Field games begin at 9am and later. They will need to be in contact with Woburn Little League; They will need to work around them. They may be responsible for lining the fields depending on Parks Department availability. Michael Martini made a motion to approve the Eastern Mass Panthers Softball Tournament at Library, Veterans, and Gonsalves fields. Kevin Lonergan seconded. Passed unanimously.

Ed Maguire/Jim Doherty Tournament - June 23rd-25th, 2023. Library and Gonzalez Fields; Kevin Lonergan made a motion to accept Ed Maguire and Jim Doherty's tournament at Library and Gonzalez Fields the weekend of June 23rd-25th, 2023; seconded by Michael Martini

Capital Projects

Green Street Spray Park; Jay Corey reached out and said that the application will be sent in for Land and Water for this project. More information to come whether they are approved in time.

Michael Martini asked about the condition at Fleming Field to see if any updates are needed. Brian mentioned that gate hinges need upkeep.

Open Space & Recreation Plan

No new information at this time.

Winter Programs

Public Skating was a great success. There were four workers for each session. Brian brought up that there was a line of fifteen people. This allowed Brian to see which sizes may be needed; he thinks between sizes 5-9. He also mentioned that there are adjustable skates that are for sizes 5-9. Kevin asked about the cost of public skating; \$4 for the ice; \$5 for skate rentals. Lou DiMambro added the idea of a Donation opportunity for Public Skating. Basketball has been up and running, and going well. One adaptive program (swimming) at the Boys & Girls Club, Holiday movie watching The Santa Clause, and a Social Club with cookies and hot chocolate. Other winter programs will be starting up soon for adults, children, and families. Youth Rock Climbing starts up this coming weekend. Maura asked about the Adaptive Programs, and new opportunities; Brian added that Adaptive Basketball has been expanding as well.

New Business:

Kevin Lonergan brought up the idea of having a Winter Festival down at Spence Farm. Brian brought up having a festival aspect with Trolley Tours, family activities of crafts, small foods, ciders and hot chocolate. Lou DiMambro brought up a Farmers Market at the Senior Center to use that space and more community involvement.

Next Meeting:

Next Meeting will be February 2, 2023.

Michael Martini made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm, seconded by Kevin Lonergan; passed unanimously.