

Recreation Commission
Wednesday, April 20, 2016
7:00pm

A meeting of the Recreation Commission was held Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at the Youth Center located on Pike Street. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. The following were in attendance:

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|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| John Faggione | Mike Latini |
| Tom Hoppey, Chairman | Noleen Casey Tomasi |
| Dawn Jones, Vice Chair | Erika Ropke Polanis |
| Gina Fitzpatrick, Liaison | Brandy Figueroa |
| Amanda Sexton, Youth Member | |

Absent: Debbie Cunningham, Matt Kowal, Youth Member

A motion to approve the report and minutes from March 2016 was made by Dawn and seconded by Erika. All those in favor:

Aye: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 1

Public Comment – None

New Business

John sent the Bell family flowers on behalf of the Recreation Commission to recognize the passing of Frank Bell.

The race is all set. John will need volunteers at 7am at Riverside. High school volunteers can meet on the stage at 8:15am. 80 have pre-registered to date. Erika suggested that a group volunteer to separate t-shirts the Friday before. A group will meet Saturday afternoon and sort shirts, hang no parking signs, and organize the bib numbers. John displayed the race t-shirt.

The Mahackamack 400 – Longboard Race is scheduled for June 12th. Signs advertising the event were made and shown to the commission. Spectators will have to walk up the hill after parking on Grand View Drive. John is not sure how many participants are expected. This event is a qualifying event for a larger race. Participants from all over the world are expected to join the race.

John recommended Mackenzie Decker, Kobie Lane, Joe DiCarlo, and Matt Somorelli to be the Recreation maintenance staff. A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Noleen and seconded by Dawn. All those in favor:

Aye: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 1

John recommended Alex and Mike Cordisco to be the Senior Recreation Leaders. John also recommended the Jessica Whitney, Sarah Bierne, Nick Chuckran, Austin Wilson, Jillian Cordisco, and James Luckey be hired as recreation specialists (playground supervisors). A

motion to approve the recommendation was made by Erika and seconded by Noleen. All those in favor:

Aye: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 1

John recommended Heather Mollander to be a lifeguard at West End Beach this summer. A motion to approve John's recommendation was made by Mike and seconded by Noleen. All those in favor:

Aye: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 1

John will be running an ad in the newspaper for a certified lifeguard with water front safety certification as well. John needs two more lifeguards.

Tennis will be a stipend position this year.

The beach opens June 20th and will close August 14th. The beach will be open daily 12-6. The playgrounds and the Youth Center will open July 5th and close August 19th. Hours will be 9-3.

Trail Work Day is scheduled for April 24th. A group of 15-20 participants from Action Bike Outfitters are going to volunteer to cut out some more trails. The goal is to get three miles done. This group would like to go out once a month to do trail work. TC Crawford suggested that the Rec. Department donate water and snacks for the volunteers.

Deejay Birtch will be back in June to do more work on the trails. The city will pay him for his work.

John is in the process of purchasing colored tree markers for the trails. The markers would be color coded to determine the difficulty of trail and there will be a map to coordinate with the markers. John would like to order the markers with money from the Major Project Account. A motion to approve the use of the Major Projects Account to purchase the markers was made by Brand and seconded by Noleen.

Kiosks will be built at the trail heads to indicate where your location is. The DEC will post information in the kiosk as well.

The Outdoor Club met to brainstorm ideas to utilize the trails. The next meeting will be May 11th at 7pm. Anyone, with an interest, is invited to attend. On May 14th there will be a walk about day to explore a few miles of trails.

The 2nd Annual Triathlon is scheduled for August 7th. Adjustments will be made based on recommendations from last year's race.

John gave an update on the RC park. The former operator was terminated. There has been new interest by two other individuals. John met with them and toured the property. The two individuals are not affiliated with the former owner. They would like to get the park up and running again. They are willing to form a club and host events and be open to the public. John

will have to meet with the Mayor to discuss the steps in getting this going again. John would like to pursue this to preserve the property.

The Youth Center schedule will be 11-3 during any breaks.

Old Business

The Fat Bike Race went very well. 30 bikers participated in this first annual event.

The Candy Dash went very well. 125 people participated on a cool sunny day and dashed for candy. The Easter Bunny made a surprise visit at the conclusion of the race.

The Spring Port Pride Day was cancelled due to weather.

John doesn't feel that the Pioneer race will be taking place.

John explained the YMCA Beat the Streets Night. Middletown has offered to work together with the Recreation Department on projects with YMCA to show kids what their programs will be like.

Youth Report – None

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm was made by Mike and seconded by Noleen. All those in favor:

Aye: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 1

**Next Meeting:
Wednesday, May 25, 2016
8:00pm**