



815 Riverside Drive • Thompson, Connecticut

Recreation Commission Special Meeting

Wednesday, June 24, 2020; 6:30 PM

Zoom

1. Call to order/Record – Call to order was by Recreation Director Lesley Munshower at 6:40pm
2. Roll call – Recreation Director Lesley Munshower, Renee Waldron, Cynthia Antos, Wayne Barber, Steve Bordua entered at 7:04pm, Tom Jourdan entered at 7:30pm, Ashley Pomes; Recording Secretary
Others Present: Jessica Bolte
3. Minutes review: May 27, 2020 – Minutes were reviewed at the end of the meeting when there were enough members to make a quorum. **Motion made by R. Waldron seconded by C. Antos to accept the minutes passed unanimously.**
4. Financial Reports
 - A. General Fund Budget Report – The fiscal year is ending next week, there are still a few open items, but the REC commission will be finishing just about on budget.
 - B. Miscellaneous Revolving Account Report – Right now the account is +\$430, all reimbursements have already been paid out, the bill for the custodial fee for basketball is anticipated which should make the account finish around -\$1,000.
 - C. Fund Balance – The fund balance sits near \$45,000 with approximately \$35,500 of that being in donations and \$9,900 in program surplus.
 - D. FY21 Budget – There was no copy to look over, this will be addressed next meeting.
5. Director's Report
 - A. Summer Camp - Staff was notified on 6/12 and parents on 6/22 that there will not be a traditional full day summer camp program this year due to unexpected COVID related guidelines/regulations and price increases. There will be other small programs offered that will be listed online.
 - B. Purely Recreation – L. Munshower has been in contact with the school, they ensure they will have a space for before and after care at the school in the fall. She wants to obtain a contract in writing by July from the school to see any kinds of fees they will be charging. She is also looking for a possible alternative location if the fees at the school are too expensive.
 - C. Special Events – Suffrage100, Summer Concerts, Nips Collection, Community Day, Turkey Trot, Tag Sale – Suffrage 100 events are going well, the next event is the Summer Concert on July 17th, Tyra Penn and the Snakes of

Amazonia will be performing on the ball field at Riverside Park at 6:30pm, there will be voter registration available there as well.

Summer concerts will be going on this year but in a different way than usual. There will be a flatbed trailer dropped off in the outfield of the ball field at Riverside Park and the bands will perform on the trailer, guests will have more space to spread out in the outfield and be able to maintain the social distancing guidelines. Lines will be drawn on the field and there will be hand sanitizer available. The concerts will take place on one Friday and Saturday night a month for the months of July, August and September. The back to back concerts will make it easier for having the trailer dropped off and picked back up. W. Barber asked about mowing the field prior to the concerts as well as the chalk for the lines to be drawn on the field, he says he may be able to help with those things if necessary.

Nips Collection is going well, there was a collection this month that took in another 10,000 bottles, totaling just shy of 40,000 bottles collected to date. There are still enough funds to be able to do another collection in July and possibly August. The next collection will be on July 11th.

Community Day will not be taking place as the traditional day it usually is due to a number of reasons. There will be an upcycled art show that will still take place with a small number of vendors with an art/craft focus.

The Tag Sale will be taking place on August 8th, there are 5 people signed up for it already with the hopes of having 25 people sign up. The rain date for this event will be the following Saturday August 15th.

There is not much to report on Turkey Trot yet, continue next month.

- D. Adult Programs – There is an adult Yoga class and Hoops class that will be taking place outdoors at Riverside Park. Classes will be started the week of July 13th.
- E. Senior Programs – L. Munshower is working with It Starts at Home to provide a senior meal to the residents of Gladys Green at the end of July or beginning of August. They will bring in bingo cards and prizes so that the seniors can eat their meal and play bingo and socialize from a distance. At this time there will be no senior events that encourage them to leave their homes.
- F. Youth Programs – There are a few youth programs starting up, there will be private guitar lessons, two different leadership programs (Leader in Training for 7th and 8th graders and Counselor in Training for 9th graders), hoops class, as well as a few others. TEEG will be offering scholarships for the leadership programs.

6. New Business

A. St. Joe's – St. Joe's is closing after 137 years. They want people to utilize the building and hope it won't stay empty for long. L. Munshower has taken a tour of the building with thoughts of it being a backup for REC activities if the school becomes too expensive. Jessica Bolte asks if the owners are interested in selling or renting, she states her Girl Scouts troop is getting to be too big for the library and they may be interested in renting a space there.

- 7. Other comments from the Commission – S. Bordua asks about the announcement of Summer Camp being cancelled and some negative comments that were on the Facebook page. All Commissioners discussed this, camp being cancelled was a

decision that was made due to a number of reasons, many people are supportive of this decision. There are some camps that are opening up in the area but a lot of them are private or have some sort of assistance that will help with the added COVID cleaning costs and lower group/enrollment numbers. There have been some instances being seen across the country with COVID cases popping up in camps that have opened with counselors and campers getting sick. The decision to cancel camp was for both financial and safety reasons, however, camp being cancelled has allowed ideas for other programs that may not have been thought of otherwise such as the leadership programs.

8. Correspondence - None

9. Citizens' Comments – Jessica Bolte from the Girl Scouts was present for the meeting. She stated the Cub Scouts dues will be increasing next year with the dues being set at \$120. The Girl Scouts price will remain the same. The Girl Scouts early registration for returning members will be ending on June 30th and then the regular registration for anyone will begin on July 1st. The Boy Scouts register year-round.

10. Announcements:

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 @ 6:30 PM
Zoom

11. Adjourn – **Motion by C. Antos seconded by R. Waldron to adjourn the meeting at 7:44pm passed unanimously.**

***There will be an audio recording of the meeting available at request in the Selectman's office at the Town Hall.*