



815 Riverside Drive • Thompson, Connecticut

## Recreation Commission Special Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 28, 2020 7:00pm Zoom

1. Call to Order/Record – The call to order was by Lesley Munshower at 6:38pm.
2. Roll Call: Lesley Munshower (Recreation Director), Steve Bordua (Chair), Wayne Barber, Cynthia Antos, Diane Keefe, Tom Jourdan, Renee Waldron, Ashley Pomes (Recording Secretary)  
Absent: Rob L'Heureux, Bob Monahan
3. Minutes Review: September 23, 2020 – **A motion was made by S. Bordua, seconded by C. Antos, to approve the minutes. All in favor.**
4. Financial Reports:
  - a. General Fund Budget Report – Checks went out to Thompson Youth Soccer, Thompson Little League, Project Graduation and Seniors as well as applications for next year that are due back in January.
  - b. Miscellaneous Revolving Account Report – Nothing new reported on.
  - c. Fund Balance – No change to report. Current standings for this year +\$10,274. It is a working document with changing numbers, so the number is not always accurate. A check was received for Turkey Trot and was deposited as requested but it will be rolling over to 2021 as the Turkey Trot for this year has been postponed. Current revenue from Maker Fair being shared with Thompson Together so half of that total will be leaving. One expense that is not in there that will be is the cost of the online registration system, bill usually comes in January for a total of around \$3,000 - 4,000.
5. Director's Report:
  - a. Purely Recreation – Morning and afternoon care are going great, OCE recently allowed an increase in the amount of children allowed in each room. They can now have 18 in one room. There are 16 slots filled in AM care. Afternoon care is using 2 rooms with 12 children in each room now due to staffing. 22 of the 24 spots are filled for PM care. Thompson Schools are now doing a half day Friday through the end of the calendar year. Purely Rec is providing childcare for those half days. Current Purely Rec enrolled parents can pay a small fee to have care for the half day and for non-afterschool participants there are some limited spots that are being offered. If half days continue after the calendar year, they will look at making it part of a regular monthly afterschool fee. There recently was a staff member who had Covid symptoms, they went and got tested but stayed out while waiting for test results and the results did come back negative.
  - b. Special Events – Suffrage100, Maker Fair, Halloween, Turkey Trot, Father/Daughter, Bon Fire – Suffrage100 had a Susan B Anthony reenactment over zoom in October. The Thompson Historical Society did a historical walk and reception and Senator Mae Flexer was there. The Maker fair was a great event, there were 62 Vendors, 24

residents and 38 non-residents. Approximately 1500 people came through with an estimated 98-99% mask compliance. A survey was sent out to vendors, results are good so far. The event was partnered with Thompson Together. The Maker Fair is being planned again for next year with a change of date as the current date is the Community Day date, looking to possibly do a spring event. Discover Putnam reached out and asked for the vendor list for their river walk. D. Keefe was a vendor there, she was pleasantly pleased on the amount of people there and said it was very Covid friendly, it was a great day. L. Munshower says they now have a great vendor base to be able to refer to EDC for use with their Permanent sheds they are having built to be in the park for vendor rentals for spring, summer and fall. There is a Halloween event coming up this Saturday at Thompson Speedway, a drive thru trunk or treat. It will be held from 4-6pm at the Thompson Speedway, it is being limited to Thompson residents only with tickets being given out at school for guest to put in their windows for the drive thru, it is estimated between 500-1000 people to attend. Ladies from the VFW came by and filled Halloween treat bags for the event. Turkey Trot will be postponed for this year due to not being able to find a secure location. Sponsors have been notified, possible postponement date to be in June near CT Trails Day. Next big event coming up is the bon fire, it is an outdoor event, waiting to plan until a little closer to the date.

- c. Adult Programs – Running two new wellness classes, Thursday evening and Saturday morning.
- d. Senior Programs – Senior craft classes, located at the Community Center. October class had good attendance, seniors are already signing up for November and December. L. Munshower is talking to the current yoga instructor about starting up an online class called Zoom Groves and Quarantine Moves, it will be a senior balance and strength class.
- e. Youth Programs – Teacher support program is ending, tomorrow is the last day, notified parents to find alternate care for remaining 2 children. Babysitting class went well. There will be a Youth Basketball Clinic in the Elementary School gym running Monday through Thursday. Only 10 children are allowed in a class. Monday or Wednesday will be for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and Tuesday or Thursday will be for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. There will be a youth basketball instructor as well as high school seniors to help with instructing. It will run for 6 weeks – 3 weeks in November and 3 weeks in December. Possibility of another 6 weeks in January and February if it goes well. R. Waldron suggests the second 6 weeks should allow for another age group of kids, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. L. Munshower agrees, says it is tough for space right now, only elementary space is available for now, they are trying to get middle school space too. There will be a Holiday Drop and Shop on Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Holiday Light Contest, prizes are still being determined, members of the Commission will be the judges. R. Waldron talks about how a lot of events in Thompson come out of the REC department and L. Munshower is really doing a great job with all of it!

## 6. New Business

- a. 2021 Meeting Dates – The Commission has been meeting at 6:30 this year as a special meeting time. L. Munshower asks the Commission if they would like to officially change the meeting time from 7:00pm to 6:30pm for next year. **A motion is made by Tom Jourdan to change the meetings from 7:00pm to 6:30pm, seconded by S. Bordua.** The last meeting of the year will be combined for November and December.

- b. PoCD – Recreation 10 Year Plan - L. Munshower shares the document on the screen, there is a discussion between her and the Commission on the Plan. The topics it includes are; Recreation Background, Recreational Assests: Town Parks and Playgrounds, Recreation Commission Roles, Responsibilities and Advocacy, Recreation Department Challenges, Recreation Department Goals, Trails Inventory and Usage, Thompson Trails Committee, Challenges for Thompson Trails, Suggested Action Steps: Recreation and Trails. L. Munshower asks if anyone notices anything missing from the list or if there is anything they think should not be on it. She mentions needing action items, some of them are listed in the goals section. There will be one more round of editing and review for this, she will send out a link for everyone to view the proposed final draft and it will be voted on at the next meeting. She asks for people to have already reviewed it and made notes of any edits prior to the next meeting. She would like to have two year goals, five year goals and ten year goals, notes it would make it easier for the budget process to have goals that are planned out.
  - c. Facility Walk Through on 11/2 at 2pm – Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00pm, all Commission members are invited to join. Checking out a few parks, prioritizing maintenance and what needs to be done. Hope to go through Riverside, Hammel, Heritage, Bull Hill and Wilsonville.
  - d. Change in December Meeting Date – Conflict with Branding – Move this meeting date to December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.
7. Other Comments from the Commission - S. Bordua says St. Joseph's is having a yard sale, he asks L. Munshower if there is anything that she might be interested in purchasing? He would like to give authorization to spend up to a certain dollar amount to purchase things. L. Munshower will go in and see if there is anything of interest in the building. **A motion is made by S. Bordua to give Lesley the ability to spend up to \$1,000 out of the 950 Account or the Supplies or Fund Balance, seconded by Tom Jourdan. All in favor.** There was a discussion about the building space at St. Joseph's if it could be of use for REC possibly, useful for holding certain events. L. Munshower will talk to the Director at TEEG about their possible interest in the building.
8. Correspondence – None
9. Citizen's Comments - None
10. Announcements:
- Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 @ 6:30pm; Zoom
11. Adjourn: **A motion to adjourn was made by S. Bordua, seconded by C. Antos. All in favor.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:44pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Pomes; Recording Secretary

Topic: Recreation Commission Special Meeting

Date: Oct 28, 2020 06:08 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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