

Community Recreation Advisory Board

Recreation & Cultural Affairs Division

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2022 5:30 – 6:30pm

Williams School Building, 180 Walnut St, Chelsea, MA

Members: Alice Murillo, Chair, Vanesa Mendoza-Mercado, Recorder, Mohamed Qasim, Christopher Marroquin, Ngoc Nguyen

Absent: Melissa Covino

Staff: Bea Cravatta, Director; Omar Miranda, Alex DelValle-Montoya Community Recreation

Guests: Hamza Abdul

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. General Public Comment

- Creating partnerships with other local organizations, such as the Boys and Girls Club to use space and meet the needs of the community (recreational space)
- Building a space would still be a temporary solution, the real solution would be creating relationships and promoting retention of participants by building relationships
- In the city there are already spaces that can be used for recreation (high school building has 2 gymnasiums, the outdoor fields, middle school facilities and so on)
- Some schools are not designed to be used by teams because it is difficult to supervise
- More conversations are needed to be intentional about how we expand into other spaces

III. Approve Minutes of 3/8/2022

- Motion to approve minutes from Mohammed, second by Christopher

IV. Summer 2022 Programs - Partnerships

- Many great partnerships available this season: Shooting Touch, Play Ball with Boston Red Sox Staff, Tenacity, Soccer without Borders, Chill foundation
- Art & Music Studio, Art Bash in the Park for Kids
- Field Trips are part of the course offerings but transportation is not being offered; Fenway, ICA, The Sports Museum plus Learn to Fish,
- Other movement offerings; Family Recreation Swim at the Boys and Girls Club, Chelsea Running Club, Afternoon Games at Highland Park

V. Community Schools - ESOL & Tech Classes

- Registration of ESOL classes has been a little slow this season
- Other organizations are seeing similar numbers, low attendance and registration
- Many factors that affect registration (summer jobs, changing schedules, financial constraints)

VI. Other Business

- During the City Council meeting the conversation returned to cleanliness of the parks and the increase of dogs due to the pandemic. There is a need for dog parks in the city.
- A need for an educational campaign to teach residents about the importance of maintaining and keeping the city clean
- Reviewing the time of the meeting, does 5:30 still work for the board?

VII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: 1st: Vanesa

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 5:30

Recorder: Vanesa Mendoza-Mercado

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