

P&R Committee Minutes

3/29/2023

In attendance- Greg Boglioli, Mark Wilch, Bill Ford, Megan Curran, Melissa Kin, Izzy Gogerty

Staff Present: Dustin Hunt, Scoot Bourne, Jake Wagner

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm

Both the agenda and minutes were approved

- 1) Public Comments- Virginia Silvey thanked the department for winter pickleball offerings and wanted an update on the status of the outdoor court renovations. Dustin stated it has been hard to find contractors to even return phone calls. The committee discussed possibly partnering with other municipalities to make a package more attractive to potential contractors. Scott thanked Virginia for taking charge of the pickleball group and fielding questions and concerns from players.
- 2) Pump Track- Erik Remsen provided an update on the Pump Track. \$6000.00 was raised in 4 days via fundraising and will be matched 2/1 by a better places grant. Also seeking a \$5000 grant from the Vermont Mountain Biking Association. Sinuosity was chosen as the contractor for the project, and they hope to begin construction in late April. The first project is relocating drainage swale and drafting a memo of understanding between the town and Addison County Bike Club for maintenance of the park.
- 3) Skatepark- Jill Quackenbush was on hand to provide updates on behalf of the Middlebury Skate Park Project. The group recently had their non-profit status approved and can now take tax deductible donations. The group has 12 people as their Board of Directors. Stormwater permit was included in the school districts application and the wetlands were marked in February. Looking at potential grant opportunities including Vt Healthy Communities, Tony Hawk Foundation and VOREC among others. They are also compiling a database of potential donors. They will be erecting a mini park at Recreation Park this summer and it was decided a mini halfpipe would get people most excited about the project. Melissa asked about parking and Dustin stated there is plenty of parking in the pool/Sportscenter parking lot and the hope would be to pave the dirt portion at some point. Bill Ford mentioned if we are looking to pave that area that the lighting should be extended as well. The committee also discussed using the park and pump track during school hours and Dustin and Erik Remsen agreed to look into the issue more.

4) Staffing

- Dustin introduced Jake Wagner who was hired as the new grounds and maintenance worker who will be with us year-round.
- Dustin let the committee know that the department is looking for a new pool manager as the current manager is seeking her masters and will not have the time to do the position this summer but will remain the swim team coach.
- Still looking for more lifeguards again this summer, will pay for recerts or half of certification.
- Most of Camp K Staff will be returning, looking for 1-2 additional counselors.
- Additional summer help will be hired to water and help with trash collection.

5) Facility Updates

- Pickleball/basketball- Rebid ongoing, extremely difficult to even get contractors to return calls. The interim plan is to reseal cracks and paint two additional courts on the basketball court until a complete reconstruction can be completed.
- Teen Center- Reopened Bid with RFP due on April 17th. Hopeful to get at least one submission.
- Rec Facility- Gym Floor was recently refinished. Next on the to-do list is painting.
- Mowing- Contract will be going out to bid soon. Rec. dept staff will be taking over Rec. Park mowing to have better consistency. Dustin let the committee know the department will be purchasing an electric mower with support from the energy committee.
- Pool- Working on getting on the piping replaced on the pump and filter. Looking at a few different options for water slides. The plan is to add another concrete section behind diving blocks for additional room for swim team bullpen/picnic tables.

6) Program Updates

- New registration site went live this month. Major hiccup with gymnastics registration but everything else has been running smoothly. User friendly and provides department with a lot more usable data. Also allows us to hand out memberships, which will be useful for pool and drop-in programs.
- The department is rethinking how we do gymnastics and other high demand registrations to keep site from crashing.
- A discussion was had about coaching benefits- currently coaches children play for free for that given sport, we also offer a free pool pass to the family. Dustin and Scoot would like to offer an exclusive window for registration in our high demand programs. They feel strongly that if they are volunteering their time then their children should get the opportunity to participate in all our programs. An added benefit is that it might make recruiting volunteers much easier for us.

- Scott provided updates about various new and existing programs including several new offerings for adults. Mark commended Scott for his work on creating this programming.
- Dustin and Scott discussed current plans for summer including:
 - i. Looks like summer programming will begin the week of June 19th and run through August 25th (10 weeks of programming)
 - ii. Summer food program will be operating all summer this year.
 - iii. Offering more slots at Camp Kookamunga this summer to make up for other camps closing. Groups will be divided into two age-appropriate sections while still conducting some activities/field trips together.
 - iv. Summer activity guide will be released on April 27th and Summer registration will begin on 5/1. Content is due by April 12th.

7) Member Reports-

- Mark mentioned that a recent book sale for Dog Park was highly successful and that the CSAC Bocce Fundraiser will be on September 30th this year.
- Izzy talked about how the middle school recently held skateboarding workshops that were well received, and they are currently looking for more workshop ideas. She also mentioned that Vt Sun had approached them about potential partnership opportunities.
- Bill Ford mentioned the Ice was out at the Sportscenter and it was nice to have a “normal” season.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm