

Leisure Services Advisory Committee Minutes, Zoom Meeting, November 19, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:01 by Chairman Keith Finck. Minutes prepared by Jim Findley.

It was noted that the October mtg was canceled due to not having a quorum...mtg rescheduled for Nov 19,2020

All members present at the meeting

Minutes of the August 20th meeting were approved, with one typo correction. The corrected minutes are attached.

Keith introduced new member, Rich Lemieux, who is replacing Mike McGovern. All members introduced themselves to Rich.

NK Golf Course (George Linnane is the new subcommittee chair)

- Revenues are still on track for an excellent year
- Hopefully we can use some of the extra funds to make further course improvements
- The golf course passed a Covid 19 inspection with flying colors

Indoor Recreation Center (Jeff Smith)

- Jeff, Keith, Chelsey and Adam White (Dir DPW) explored several possible sites. Ideally, we can find land that the town already owns for the center.
- The South County Community Recreation Center is a good example of what we'd like to do.
 - It is used by approximately 400 people every day
- Several members had suggestions for sites:
 - Jim H asked about the Davisville Elementary School area
 - Kerry suggested we look at something on Post Road, to tie into the Redevelopment effort. It might be possible that a business would donate space.
 - George brought up Signal Rock and the old town dump, near the animal shelter
 - Several people wondered about a location near the golf course
- Rich Lipsitz pointed out that residents will object to any proposal in a residential area.

Allen's Harbor (Rich Lipsitz is the new subcommittee chair)

- The harbor had an excellent year. Thanks to the 5% price increase and high activity, the harbor will generate approximately \$80k of additional profit.
- Next year also looks good. The waiting list is the longest it has been in a decade.
- Ed Hughes has retired. Ed Hanson will be co-manager with Gail Salzberg
- They plan to do a lot of repair work over the winter so the marina will be ready when the season begins.

Other Recreation Department Activities. (Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs)

- The new Wilson Park playground will be ready by spring.
 - It will have the first public park splash pad in the state!
 - (Funding was through a bond, not a grant.)
- Work will soon begin on the \$400k DEM grant for the beach, with a goal of being completed by beach season.
- Chelsey is also working on a proposal to ensure that current recreational facilities are properly maintained.
- (Kerry pointed out that Ralph likes to see that things are getting done. He puts a high priority on keeping public spaces looking good.)
- The Town Council would like us to investigate using Rediscover NK as a way to promote things that residents can do during the pandemic.
 - Chelsey and Ann Marie will come up with a plan
 - Kerry suggested using GeoCast to explore NK parks and also NK facilities like the Water Department
- Nothing new on the proposed improvements to Wickford Landing. Anything that reduces the number of parking places will be a hard sell.
- 12 meetings for 2021 have been scheduled, but it is unlikely that we will need all of them. We are only required to have 4 meetings a year.
 - We may need an additional meeting this year to discuss the legal opinion on having an “under 40” rate for the golf course.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47.