

WOODBRIAGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

11 Meetinghouse Lane
Woodbridge, CT 06525
203-389-3446

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES Monday, March 27, 2017

PRESENT:

Commission Members: Stan Gedansky, Pennell Hamilton, Robert Hill, David Lunt, Dwight Rowland, and Jane Shernow

Staff: John Adamovich, Recreation Director, Christopher Burr-Bahner, Assistant Pool Director:

Public: Nancy Polk, Mary Beth Gawron

Recorder: Jim Franco, Office Manager

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 pm

- 1 Public Comments: Mary Beth Gawron, a Beecher Pool member mentions how there have been many changes since the JCC have been using the Beecher Pool. She sympathizes with the JCC, but it has been a major impact in the use of the Beecher Pool. She mentions how it is so crowded that you cannot get a lane. You need to share lanes and you have to dodge other swimmers. It is too crowded. She goes on to add that because of the extra usage the locker rooms are dirtier, and there are showers that do not work. She added that everyone should follow the rules, and that it appears the WAC members are not showering. John suggested that the JCC situation does need to be addressed. That if their pool is not opening next year, we should look into some type of membership for using our facility on a long term basis. Jim added that when our pool was closed nine months to address the drain situation years ago, we did not sell new memberships during the closer. John mentioned the cuts that he needed to make, and that come July 1, the early bird hours would go to 6 am to 8 am instead of the current, 5:45 am to 8:15 am. The Recreation FY 18 budget asked for \$611,000 and was reduced to \$586,000. Security, and the Fitness Center hours will also be reduced. The Pre-School camp program will be reduced to 2 groups. This was only the first round of cuts, and there may be more to follow. The Town is reacting to less funding from the states. Bob gives John credit for making the cuts that he made. Mary Beth pointed out that more older people are using the pool, and that it is not just for swimming. John added that he spoke with Brad earlier in the day, and that the Beecher Pool does not need to be a shutdown this summer. So, we will be able to stay open two extra weeks providing that we have enough funding to cover our costs. This way our members will not be left without a place to swim this summer. Nancy Polk addressed the Commission. She mentions how she is a long time member, and has been thru seven moves. She mentions how the fitness room is gem, but the equipment is close together. She would like to see the members surveyed of the hours that they would want. The Fitness Center with salary and costs of equipment is \$39,370. We have 50 memberships. Bob explains that he is confident in the cuts in times that John has chosen, and that John checked with the supervisors. John clarified with Nancy that Tuesdays and Thursdays will not

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- be eliminated. However, if we need to cut another \$20,000, it might be in the next round of cuts. The Fitness Center was originally only open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Tuesdays and Thursdays was a later addition. John needed to cut 5 hours per day from the Recreation budget to cover the mandated budget reduction given to him by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. These cuts came from Security, Banking, Pre-School camp, Early Bird, Fitness Center and after school swim lessons. Bob explains that by the cuts John has made, he may have saved the Fitness Center from being eliminated altogether.
- 2 **Minutes:** Bob Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of January 23, 2017. Pennell Hamilton seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Bob Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of February 16, 2017. Pennell Hamilton seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Dwight Rowland abstained. Bob Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2017. David Lunt seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Pennell Hamilton abstained.
 - 3 **Liaison Reports:** no report
 - 4 **Town Plan:** no report
 - 5 **Pool:** Christopher verifies that it is slightly crowded with the JCC swimming, but we are working hard to make it work. Early Bird has been slightly crowded at certain times. We have added the slow, medium, and fast lanes. However, on the weekends there is still an open area for kids to play. Recreation needs to know where the JCC is in their building restoration. Also, Recreation should have a list of their members with contact information in case of an emergency. Christopher will contact Allan Greenberg at the JCC to get this information.
 - 6 **Personnel:** none
 - 7 **Fitness Room:** John did speak with Rob and the cuts were made during what he and Rob feel were the slowest hours. For the next meeting, the Commission would like to compare other Fitness Center rates. They would also like to see minutes from the Old Firehouse committee to see what is going on with that building.
 - 8 **Outdoor Facilities:** A. Walking Trails- Run Club will begin using the trail on April 17th. The wash outs have been taken care of. B. Multi-Purpose Fields- Still closed. Check with Adam to see when he thinks they will be open. C. Skating Rink - closed D. Sports – Recreation Spring sports just began, today. Stickball was a program that was cut due to low enrollment. Dwight mentioned that Beth-Wood Baseball's opening day is April 29th. It is Beth-Wood Baseball's 45 year.
 - 9 **Tennis Courts.** Center Courts opened. Bob asks if the Parks Dept. will be able to prepare and maintain the 4 courts at Country Club for the season.
 - 10 **Financial – Director's Reports, Budget Reports:** Current expenses are at 75.0% and last year we were at 71.2%. 74.7% is where we should be. Current income is at \$160,425.93, 58.5%. The camp income collected before July is included in that figure. Last year we were at 126,802.40, 60.6%
 - 11 **Programs:** Spring programs begin this week.
 - 12 **Correspondence:** none
 - 13 **Country Club Pool:** Bob mentions how Recreation informed the Board of Finance that there were 121 memberships interested in the upcoming season. Bob and John thanked Jim Franco and Jonathan DeMayo for their endless work with the emailings. The pool had 171 memberships last year, which made \$9,000. We need 150 memberships to break even. The Recreation Commission

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feels that the Country Club of Woodbridge is good for the residents. Within 2 weeks a report from a consultant should be ready in the cost of \$4800, checking the pool deck, mechanical system, heater, filtration system, vent, and electrical. The Board of Finance needs to know what the risks are and there will be a Special Meeting April 12th. Recreation should be ready April 13th to post the Pool Director's position. There may need to be an interim Director or directors. The interview process needs to be set up. It should be rolling interviews. They should be set-up so that they can go back to back on one given date in the afternoon. It is estimated that it would take a minimum of 2 to 3 weeks to get the water ready. There may need to be a Special Recreation Meeting on April 17th.

14 Policies and Procedures: none

15 Other Business as may be added to the agenda by a 2/3 vote of the Commission: none

Dwight Rowland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stan Gedansky seconded the motion. All voted in favor Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.