

# WOODBIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

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

RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, February 28, 2022

IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNOR LAMONT'S EXECUTIVE ORDER #7b. SECTION 1, WHICH SUSPENDS THE OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS OF IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION, AUDIO AND VIDEO OF THIS SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE TELEVISED ON youtube@wgatv79 IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO VIEW AND LISTEN TO THE MEETING. YOU MAY ACCESS IT HERE AT:

<https://woodbridgect.webex.com/recording/service/sites/woodbridgect/recording/9cd4aa5c7b20103aaafd005056817bd2/playback>

## PRESENT:

Commission Members present: Mary Alvarado, Michael Helfenbein, Kim Hynes, Smith Mowry, and Andrea Weinstein

Staff: John Adamovich, Recreation Director, Theresa Bahner, Pool Director, Christopher Bahner, Assistant Pool Director,

Board of Selectmen: David Vogel

Board of Finance: Dwight Rowland

Meeting Host: Jon DeMayo

Recorder: Jim Franco

- 1) Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm
- 2) Public Comments: no public comments

3) Minutes: **Mary Alvarado made a motion to approve the minutes from Monday, January 24, 2022. Smith Mowry seconded the motion.** The liaisons needed to be listed in attendance. Both Dwight Rowland and David Vogel were at the January meeting. **All voted in favor. Kim Hynes abstained.**

4) Liaison report: A) Dwight Rowland mentioned that Thursday, March 3, the Board of Finance will look at the Board of Selectmen's budget recommendations. B) David Vogel mentioned that the budget is moving along. They are continuing to plan with the rescue plan money. The Arbor Haven negotiations are continuing and will need to go to a referendum. Andrea thanked the liaisons for attending. David mentioned that the clock tower and gazebo are on the list for repairs, and they are aware of the concerns. Andrea would like to see the gazebo kept in good shape so that it lasts.

5) Chairman's Report/Vice Chairman's report: A) Andrea began with covid numbers are going down and thanked the department for keeping the programs going. She praised John for his work on the budget and his efforts for taking the lead in the cuts. B) Smith's focus this month was on the Volleyball League. Jim started the league when he arrived back in 2004. The winter league has had between six and seven teams. It has been held in the Beecher South Gym. In the early years of the league when the Orange Park

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and Rec league and Woodbridge league ended at the same time, the two championship team would face off. In 2016, the league expanded outside to a sand court at the Country Club property. Anthony Taddei played a major role in its construction. It is limited to 4 teams because there is only one court. Doug Fortune has been the Supervisor for both programs. Jim added that when the outdoor program began, he used Smith's idea from Orange, that the department made the teams. Smith explained that he knew Jim from the 1990's when they worked for the Orange Park and Rec. Dept and Jim had his own sand court. Jim thanked Smith for focusing on the volleyball program.

6) Pool: Theresa reports that swim lessons are going great and that they end March 5. Parents stay in a spectator area. Children have been moving from level 1 to level 2 mid session. The progression is amazing. The children are more confident. The focus is on the children. The pool closes on March 20. March 19 is the last day. On March 20<sup>th</sup> the draining process will begin. This would have been the year to drain the pool anyway. The only school program that this would affect would be the adaptive swim program. If the pool opens sooner than expected, Theresa can post on facebook, and emails can be sent out. Michael inquired about the problem. John Adamovich explained that there is leakage into the pit in the filter room. The pool needs to be drained to see where it is coming from. The pool is normally closed two weeks during the summer. It is possible that other repairs could be done at this time, so that it doesn't need to be closed during the summer.

7) Personnel: Noah Dodd for sports leader. Adam Liu for swim instructor. Both Adam and Noah have passed their background checks and sex offender list check. They will be making minimum wage at \$13.00 per hour. **Michael Helfenbein made a motion to approve Noah Dodd for sports leader and Adam Liu for swim instructor. Mary Alvarado seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

## 8) Director's Report:

A) Fitness Center Fine. Once per month supervisors Johnny V. and Erast go with some of the morning patrons to the Epic Diner.

B) Outdoor Facilities: Parks closed except the playground.

C) Tennis Courts/Skating Rink : Closed. No nets are on courts 3 and 4. Andrea mentioned a concern of the ice rink being on the tennis courts. John explained that a tarp was put down first for protection, and then the liner placed on top. Next year, the rink will be placed on courts 3 and 4, or over at the Country Club property, next to the volleyball court. It can be fenced in over there and locked. The frame can stay up. It also has plenty of parking. The ice needs to be four inches thick to be safe to skate. There needs to be days of single digits in order to achieve that. There were 15 days that it was open this year. It brought lots of enjoyment. Unfortunately, we were unable to get the hot chocolate night in.

D) Programs and Sports: The first day of spring program registration brought 70 enrollments. We are well over 100 right now. Winter programs are winding down this week. A question arose about the bike event on May 14, and its conflict with Holy Communion, and will there be a yoga demonstration. Jim said that he would double check with Betsy, but at his last conversation with her, the date would stay, and that there would be no demonstration, just yard games like badminton, corn hole, and volleyball. Andrea asked if there will be the special needs camp this year. John expressed the concerns of this camp because of the closeness of the one on one

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attention, and that the program is too confined. He would like to wait one more summer to run it safely. John will reach out to those involved with the camp to explain.

E) Financial Report: The expenses through January are at \$314,563.43 which is at 61.2%. We should be at 58.3% John explains that by May the numbers will be where they should be. Last year at the end of January, we were at \$142,727.97. It was 45.0%. That is because there was a limited camp. The income through January was \$82,197.17 at 45.6%. Rec. fees that were collected was \$39,745.28. The percentage of which that was paid by credit card is 91.7%. Income at this time last year was \$45,600.46, that is 37.2 %.

There may not be as many trips this year. \$8,530 were cut by the Board of Selectmen for the operating budget. The cuts broken down as follows: \$5,530 for summer camp transportation, \$2,000 fitness center, and \$1,000 in bank charges.

F) Emergency Plan: In progress. We will have an update next month.

9) Policies and Procedures: none

10) Correspondence- Field Requests: Dean Bhatt of the JCC to start a flag football program. It will be Sundays at Center, 12 to 2 pm. Everson Soccer with his annual soccer camp at West River 9 am to 4 pm, August 15 to August 19. Milford Amigos Soccer 8 am to 10 am at Pease Rd. Everson and Milford Amigos are a full rentals. Two of the three requests are returning programs, they just missed last month's meeting. The JCC request is the new request. The JCC originally wanted Pease Rd, but that would have been a conflict. Center field was available. With that change, there are no conflicts. **Kim Hynes made a motion to approve. Smith Mowry seconded the motion. All voted in favor.** B) A copy of Dwight's letter from Beth-Wood Baseball to the Town for the \$3,000 annual donation for the purchase of clay materials and miscellaneous safety improvements to the Town's ball fields. Dwight said that Adam does an unbelievable job.

11) Other Business: none

Next meeting March 28, 2022 7 pm will be virtual.

12) Mary Alvarado **a motion to adjourn. Kim Hynes seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.**