

# WOODBIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

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

## RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES Monday, March 27, 2023

AUDIO AND VIDEO OF THIS 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:

[Cisco Webex Meetings - Replay Recorded Meeting](#)

### PRESENT:

Commission Members present: Andrea Weinstein, Smith Mowry, Jane Shernow, Mary Alvarado, and Bill Derosa

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

Board of Selectmen Liaison: David Vogel

Meeting Host/Recorder: Jon DeMayo, Office Clerk

Public: none

1.) Meeting called to order : 7:37 PM

2) Public Comments: none

3) Minutes: **Jane made a motion to approve the minutes from Monday, January 23, 2023. Bill seconded the motion.** Under item 7, Personnel, Sprots Leaders should be Sports leaders. Under Item 8 section E, Financial Report, Smith and Andrea also committed should be Smith and Andrea also commented. Under Item 5, Liaison's Report, Andrea encourage should be Andrea encouraged. Under Item 8 section A, Fitness Center, should be Wellness & Health Fitness center. With those changes, **all voted in favor.**

4) Chairman's Report/Vice Chairman's report: A) Andrea is grateful to all the Recreation staff for keeping the community healthy. She acknowledges the smooth transition between Jim Franco and Jon DeMayo in the Recreation Office. She thanked Jim for his dedication to Rec and the tremendous job he did. Two letters to Jim will be sent to him. One from the Recreation Commission and one from the Recreation Department. Andrea mentioned the article in the New Haven Register about the pool, written by Austin Mirmina. The pool filters were purchased, and we hope to be back up and running by late summer. She thanks everyone that went to bat for the pool. Andrea states plans are pushing forward for the Community & Cultural Center. They want to maintain the character of the building. The center will have a room used for yoga, t'ai chi, and a board

# WOODBIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

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

room for meetings. One of the bays will have some fitness equipment and other rec game tables. Bill and Andrea went to the FOI meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Andrea strongly recommends everyone to attend one if you have never been.

B) Vice Chair report – Smith wanted to formally thank Jim for all the work he did for the Rec Department. He also congratulated Jon DeMayo on his new promotion. He stopped by the fields on Center Road and mentioned they looked amazing. All the fields are in tip top shape compared to the other fields in the area.

5) Liaison's report- None

6) Pool – John states the pool should be ready by September. The Beecher Road Building Committee is no longer in charge of the decision on the pool. The Town is now responsible for the maintenance of the pool. John mentions for summer camp we will have a couple of waterslides and will also be using the Woodbridge Pool Club on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00-11:30am. Recreation will take care of all charges and supply the lifeguards. Rec summer camp will be swimming at the pool club for 6 weeks and it will be a shared usage between the pool club members and the Rec summer camp kids. When the pool opens back up, John wants to have 3 days of swimming lessons, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. We will not be having early bird or midday swim due to school safety. Keeping the school building secure is more important. John says he would have to sit down with the superintendent to discuss early swim times.

7) Recreation, Pool, & Facility Fees: John states we should table the discussion until the next meeting when Michael is present. It also gives the commission time to review everything in the packet. Smith had a question on the WAC donations page. The average amount of maintenance the Town paid for the pool over 16 years was \$94,875. That page has to be corrected to average amount over 17 years. John mentions there was no fee raise in 2020 due to the pandemic. Other than 2020 fees have gone up every other year. Next fiscal year budget we will increase fees.

8) Personnel: **Smith made a motion to approve Evelyn Liu as a Sports Leader & Rachel Guerra as the Head Field Hockey Coach. Jane seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

John thanked David Cohen for doing a fabulous job getting people to work.

**Jane made a motion to approve Jon DeMayo as Office Manager. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

9) Director's Report:

A) Wellness & Health Fitness Center: Running very well. Up to 35 members registered. Open to ages 16 and above. John says we hope to move to the old firehouse.

B) Outdoor Facilities: Fields look great. Open on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

# WOODBIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

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

C) Tennis Courts/Skating Rink: Ice skating rink was only open 5 days this season. John is looking into a synthetic ice rink that would be usable 7 months out of the year. It would be something to put in the 6 year capital budget. There was a rip in the liner and the ice-skating rink company sent us a new liner for no charge. We now have a backup liner for next year. John will be putting up a sign that says no rollerblading/roller skating on the tennis courts.

D) Programs and Sports: John mentions in 2015, spring programs had 270 kids registered. 70 of them were registered for swimming lessons. In 2023 we have 244 kids registered for programs with no pool. Thursday after school basketball is full with 28 kids registered. After school programs are fantastic. Dave Smith and Steve Cahoon run basketball at Center. Paula Economopoulos is running gymnastics at Beecher. John thanks JCC and Orange for letting our members use their pool. We invited the JCC to play in our Thursday night basketball league.

E) Financial Report: Expenses through February 2023 are \$351,249.24 that is 67.6% Expenses through February 2022 were \$350,224.21 at 67.7%. The income through February 2023, was \$115,963.31 at 47.0%, of that 84.5% of the recreation fees were collected by credit card. Fees collected through February 2022 were \$95,204.28 at 52.8%.

10) Policies and Procedures: - none

11) In Person Meetings: Andrea asked all the commissioners if they would like to do in person meetings or virtual. Hybrid has been challenging. Smith, Bill, Jane, Mary would prefer to start meetings at 7:00pm. Bill mentions it is hard to hear people on Webex. He has to piece sentences together. The quality of people's reports, ability to share and build on each other's thought is better in person. John mentions Beecher south assembly room on Mondays. Jon DeMayo will check with the office at Beecher to see if the south assembly room is available on Mondays at 7pm.

**Jane made a motion to move meetings to 7:00pm. Smith seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

**Smith made a motion to return to in person meetings. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

12) Publicity: Andrea mentions she wants to continue to publicize programs and Wellness and Health Fitness Center. John states it goes out to all newspapers and also though email blast. Andrea mentions doing a meeting staff members bio on Facebook. Jon DeMayo states summer camp publicity goes out though the Woodbridge Newspaper, email blasts, and the Town website.

13) Correspondence-

A) field reservation for Acorn 2 on Sundays, April 16-June 11 by Core Training Academy.

**Jane made a motion to approve Bill Asermely's field request for Acorn 2 on Sundays, April 16-June 11. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

# WOODBIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

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

- B) Copy letter of Dwight Rowland and Beth-Wood Baseball \$3,000 annual donation for the purchase of clay materials and miscellaneous safety improvements to the Town's ball fields. Andrea thanked Dwight Rowland and Bethwood Baseball for their \$3,000 donation to the Town ball fields.
- C) Letter to build more pickleball/tennis courts in Woodbridge and to build the ice rink in another location from Frank Wang. Andrea said we are doing the best we can with the resources we have. John said if we look into a concrete slab at Alegi property it can be used for basketball, ice skating, and pickleball. It can be a multipurpose concrete slab. It would have to go into our 6 year capital budget.
- D) Pool support letter from member Richard Kaplan
- E) Pool Support letter from Denise
- F) Health & Wellness support letter from Joe Palumbo

## 14) Other Business-none

Next meeting April 17, 2023, 7:00 pm. Beecher South Assembly room

15) Adjournment: **Bill made a motion to adjourn. Smith seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm.**