

# WOODBIDGE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

John Adamovich – Recreation Director

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

## RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES NO QUORUM Monday, December 4, 2023

Commission Members present: Andrea Weinstein, Jane Shernow, & Mary Alvarado

Commission Members not present: Michael Helfenbein, Julie Katz, William DeRosa

Staff: John Adamovich, Recreation Director, Chris Bahner, Assistant Pool Director, & Jon DeMayo, Office Manager

Liaison: Dwight Rowland, Board of Finance & David Vogel, Board of Selectmen

Meeting Recorder: Jon DeMayo, Recreation Office Manager

1) Meeting called to order 7:07 PM

2) Public Comments: None

3) Minutes: Andrea mentions there was 1 typo on page 3 under Program and Sports. Are gong excellent should be going excellent. **No Quorum.**

4) Chairman's Report/Vice Chairman's report: Andrea thanked the Rec Department and Recreation Commissioners for giving their time to the community. Andrea expressed her concerns with the gazebo. There is still some rot at the base. If it goes untaken care of the problem will get bigger. On the left side of the gazebo plywood has been affixed to that. Dwight mentioned that the gazebo is outside and exposed to the weather. It needs to be properly maintained with paint and replacement of wood that is damaged. Dwight will follow up with Adam Parsons.

B) Vice Chair report – none

5) Liaison's report- David Vogel mentioned it is budget season. There will be more continuity in the Recreation Commission than there will be with the Board of Selectmen. There will be 4 new Selectmen as well as a new First Selectmen. Gerry Shaw is also retiring. David said the new Board is a good group of people. He is optimistic that more action will be taken on things like the gazebo. David's piece of advice to all Boards and Commissions is to pay attention to exactly what your budget is and why. Dwight mentioned it would be really good if you could go into detail of why you need certain items in your budgets. A little bit more of explanations. There will be a new Board of

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Selectmen and a few new members on the Board of Finance. We have to educate the new Boards.

6) Pool – John stated that the Town should fix the whole pool. Not piece meal it over 5 years. Rec has swim lesson programs in limbo. Woodbridge Aquatic Club has programs in limbo. This is the Town of Woodbridge. We need to support it. John mentioned he went to Tony Genovese and the pool is on hold until the changing of the guard. After January 1<sup>st</sup> the new administration will reassess. They will have to be brought up to speed on everything happening with the pool. Andrea stated the Recreation Commission feels very strongly that the pool is a valuable resource for the townspeople from the oldest to the youngest swimmers and from school aged swimmers to adult swimmers. John mentioned we are not allowed to use the pool during the day at all when school is in session. We need to apply our own entrance, so we can expand the hours of the pool. Why spend \$800,000 for 200 hours when you can spend \$800,000 for 500 hours. Mary mentions that cutting off the starting blocks and putting cones there is still not safe. John says if the blocks aren't put in the floor will be retiled. The pool should be put back the way it was and the blocks were apart of the pool.

7) Recreation, Pool, & Facility Program fees: John mentioned there was a little financial problem with yoga. We reassessed the fees & went up. After we run this session, we will reassess the fees again to see if we have to go up. We do not want to lose that program.

8) Personnel: Cecilia Cadelina & Samuel Gettinger both applied to be sports leaders. They will be starting at \$15 per hour. John stated both have been vetted and passed their background checks. Personnel will be voted on at the next meeting. **No Quorum.**

9) Director's Report:

A) Health & Wellness Fitness Center: Everything is running well. Theresa is using her Pool Director hours to work at the Fitness Room. We are up to 56 members.

B) Outdoor Facilities: Outdoor Facilities are in great shape.

C) Tennis Courts/Skating Rink: Ice Skating rink is on top of the basketball court at Pease Rd playground area now. John wants a big slab for tennis, pickleball, basketball, floor hockey, and skating. The slab will be multi-purposed. Would just need to paint the lines of what sport is going on the slab. No need for lights because the lights in the parking lot shine exactly onto that side of the open field. Tennis courts are doing fine. Leaving our pickleball nets up throughout the winter. There are many nice days where people can play pickleball during the winter months.

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D) Programs and Sports: Fall sport programs were highly attended. The winter programs open next week. Bowling is up to 20 students and chess is up to 14 students.

E) Financial Report: Are expenses in 2023 are right where we were in 2022. All of our big income comes from summer camp.

F) Capital Budget: John stated he is asking for \$15,000 in FY25 for replacement of outdated treadmill & elliptical. Dwight mentioned \$16,000 was too low for lighting center field and courts. Also, must make sure the lighting does not bother the neighbors in that area. Capital budget will be voted on at our special meeting. **No Quorum.**

G) Operating Budget: John mentioned the budget includes the cost of Beecher Rd security & summer camp security. The bus cost and minimum wage went up which increased the budget. Minimum wage increased the budget by \$15,000-\$20,000. Asking for another \$47,000 overall in the budget. The pool is included in the budget, so we are not caught off guard in case it opens. The operating budget will be voted on at our next special meeting. **No Quorum.**

10) Policies and Procedures: Facility request form will be reviewed at the January meeting.

11) Publicity: The November edition of Woodbridge Town Newspaper had the Radio City Christmas Spectacular bus trip and winter youth programs. The Town of Woodbridge November newsletter advertised winter adult programs, youth programs, & Radio City Christmas Spectacular trip. Andrea mentioned putting out a news flash through our rec news flash system to sign up for the town's newsletter. Jon DeMayo mentioned in the next paper he advertised Bill and Diane's yoga classes and also included a picture of them. Andrea mentioned a sandwich board sign for rec programs.

12) Correspondence- Thank you letter to Dave Cohen from Christina Wethington.

Two letters of support for Bill Banick's yoga classes. One from Susan Freudzon and one from Bill Banick.

13) Other Business: none

14) Adjournment: **Meeting adjourned 8:20 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jon DeMayo, Office Manager