

Park and Rec Meeting Minutes June 8, 2020

The Park and Rec meeting was called to order by chair Mike Carey.

Present were Duane Snesrud, Mike Carey, Nicole Bower and Jessica Boelman via zoom, Denise Williamson and liaison Terry Holmes.

This board recommends to the Town Board that Empire not utilize the Public Works building through August due to COVID-19 concerns. September and October rentals are questionable, and they will be notified that rentals may not occur.

This board recommends that the concession stand at the ballfields not be open for use until buildings open again.

It was decided not to have the Celebration this year due to COVID-19 concerns. Instead of the celebration we would like to have an ice cream night with Schwan's. Residents can come get a free ice cream treat and then head home. We would have stations of ice cream to adhere to social distancing guidelines. This board would also cancel Sunday night entertainment through July with August is pending.

Story walk will continue throughout the summer. There will also be a Story Walk Writing Contest. Children of residents can submit a short story. There will be one age group, the Park & Rec committee will decide on 4 winners. The contest will be open for submissions in July and winners announced at the ice cream social. Nicole will be working on getting a submission form made up and prizes. Was suggested contacting the Farmington Bakery to see if they will donate 4 \$10 gift certificates to their store.

This board recommends Yoga to be cancelled through August with a possible restart in September.

The Park & Rec received an email from a resident asking for a handicap swing to be put in at the Town Hall park. She has a son with disabilities that lives at home and his day program has been cancelled due to the pandemic. They take daily walks and noticed other parks have one. The Park and Rec is looking into the possibility of putting one in.

The Park and Rec would like to have our planner review the parks comp plan that was developed a few years ago and give the committee guidance regarding future park developments.

Concern over the upkeep of the ballfields was discussed. Would like to see the weeds around the warning track and fences taken care of more regularly. Also, more lime rock along the warning track and dragged. Asking if Toro is an option to mow at the ballfields to free up maintenance more? Also asking of the possibility of hiring summer help to take care of the ballfields.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Next meeting will be June 22nd.

Submitted by Duane Snesrud