

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
In-Person at Recreation Office, 555 Old Orchard Road
January 13, 2022

Present in Person: Ed Casarella, Barbara Komins, Christine LaBranche, Brent Warren, Christine Mickle (Director)

Present on Zoom: n/a

Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM.

Motion made by Barbara Komins to approve Dec. 8, 2021 minutes; Christine LaBranche seconded.

Correspondence: n/a

Appointments: n/a

Director's Report:

Programs: Interim holiday program was a hit – lots of holiday gifts were created and kids were sad to see it end so soon!

We are in week 2 of adult programs and getting good turnouts for all three programs.

Winter after-school programs started this week and all groups are maxed out with 15 children in each group so having use of the COA 14-passenger van has been a great help. Both Jake and Christine have been trained to operate the van.

Youth basketball also started this week – we are playing games but a couple of towns have had to cancel this first week (and possibly next week) due to Covid. All players and spectators must wear masks.

Events: “Visits from Santa” was a great success! We visited over 40 Eastham families and we really enjoy working with the Police Department.

No event planned for January – with it just being 2 people in the department, we have a lot going on with basketball and afterschool.

We are planning something for February – a Valentine Event of some sort.

Old Business:

Field of Dreams: Softball field dugouts are complete – we will just need to add loam around them as there is a bit of a step-up.

Wiley Park: One playground order is in – waiting for update on second order.

T-Time: Town is in the hiring of a master planner phase. A community center proposal must pass at Town Meeting.

CPC: Ed gave an update on the requests that have come in front of the committee:

Town Clerk's request for a new vault was approved by committee.

The Town is looking to purchase the hotel across the street from the police department for housing. The current set-up is a main front building and 4 smaller back buildings. The front building is livable but the back ones would need to be removed and rebuilt. Discussion about if the Affordable Housing Trust buys one lot – this only helps one family...buying a hotel only helps 4 or 5 families and costs one million dollars ...maybe better to put one million dollars into Nauset Green. Town really does not have a definite plan for the hotel, they just want to buy it, and then there is the concern that they would come back to the committee next year for more money to fix it up.

COA Thrift Store is for sale – this has been an asset for the COA. It has historical value also. Town not sure what they would do with this but considering purchasing it.

Conservation Commission is asking for \$500,000.00 a year to be able to buy land as it becomes available without waiting for Town Meeting approval.

New Business:

ECEC Program: The Town has announced that it will be absorbing the program under the Recreation Department. This is exciting news for the department and will allow for expanded programs and childcare. Makes sense to do this now with a community center (hopefully!) in our future.

Meeting with COA: Ed and Christine M. met with Dorothy Burritt (COA Director) and two of her board members (Joan and Pat). This was the initial meeting to discuss potential joint programming. Next step is for Ed and Christine to visit COA.

Other Business:

Annual Report is due and the department offered up 2 options for the commissioners to choose from – the three-page version was chosen.

Driving on the beach is being discussed again by the Conservation Commission. Looks like it will be approved – Rec Commission still feels it is not safe during the busy summer months.

Next meeting is set for Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 5:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM, motion made by Christine LaBranche; seconded by Barbara Komins.