

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
In-Person at Recreation Office, 555 Old Orchard Road  
March 16, 2022

**Present in Person:** Ed Casarella, Barbara Komins, Christine LaBranche, Allie Davis, Christine Mickle (Director)

**Present on Zoom:** n/a

Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM.

Motion made by Barbara Komins to approve February 10, 2022 minutes; Christine LaBranche seconded.

**Correspondence:** n/a

**Appointments:** n/a

**Director's Report:**

**Programs:** All winter sport programs have ended. Basketball teams had great seasons and celebrating with pizza parties!

February vacation was a lot of fun – we had 16 to 19 children per day. The 3 days were long days (children and staff were there from 8-5:30) but jam packed with games, crafts and we took a field trip every day. Even though there were only 16-19 children we still had 5 staff present due to the need for 1x1's. This at times is very difficult and challenging as we are a recreation program – we aren't trained to provide 1x1's and since Covid, we have seen an increase in children needed individual attention.

We are in week 3 of our afterschool clubs – all 3 clubs are maxed out and we have a wait list going for all 3. No masks indoors or during transportation!

Spring sports program registration is underway. Programs being offered are Tots T-Ball, T-Ball, Farm League Baseball, Softball for grades 2-6 and a NEW track & field program! We are very excited about track & field – we are working with NRHS coaches and hope to have a meet with the town of Brewster.

**Events:** No event planned for March – with it just being 2 people in the department, we have a lot going on with afterschool and the merging with ECEC

**Department Update:** Katie Nelson has accepted the Program Coordinator position with us! Her first day was actually today! Katie has been running the ECEC program for the past 5 years and prior to that a program in Brewster. We have worked with Katie as 2 separate entities and it has always been easy, she brings a ton of experience with her and we are very excited about us absorbing the ECEC program. Our goal is for it to be totally town run by April 1.

Setting the fees for and planning for the summer program is underway. This is all heavily dependent on the number of staff we can hire. We have reached out to former employees, contacted NRHS and the Tech and the town's HR Director has put out seasonal job advertisements. We are hearing from other Rec Departments that the process is very slow going. Our wages are lower than Stop & Shop or the restaurants.

Hope to have more info about the summer program soon!

Beach fees are changing – the day rate and visitor stickers are increasing.

**Old Business:**

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

Open Space has withdrawn their request for \$500,000.00 a year to set-up a fund to be able to buy land as it becomes available. They still want to do this but will set-up their own method.

Recreation has \$150,000.00 in reserves.

The 4 categories will see an increase in their amounts from \$90,000.00 to \$108,000.00.

Field of Dreams: End of March is the goal for the baseball dugouts to be complete. The Tech will be spreading loam around the dugouts to level them off. After completion, next step is to revisit the fencing.

Wiley Park: Still waiting on some pieces but company looking to start with what they have.

**New Business:** n/a

**Other Business:** Question arose about if Little League has reached out to use fields. As of now they haven't. Christine M. gave a quick update on Little League – Nauset Little League and Monomoy Little League have now merged and are Coastal Little League.

Christine M. informed the commission that the town is looking to have some version of Windmill Weekend this year. It may be an abbreviated version with just the big events (car show, talent show, sandcastle contest, etc.). The department is looking to get back in and be involved. More information to come as it becomes available.

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 5:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM, motion made by Christine LaBranche; seconded by Barbara Komins.