

MINUTES

Westfield Recreation Commission

January 9, 2023, 7:30pm

- OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT
- ROLL CALL - Rob Benacchio (BOE) absent
- FLAG SALUTE
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES, December 5, 2022, Meeting - Jeff Perrella made a motion to approve, Joe Schaefer seconded. All approved
- CHAIRPERSON REPORT - Jenn Gilman wants to welcome Megan Schaffer to her new role. It's a very exciting time for recreation in Westfield. All members remained on the committee which will keep the momentum going to complete some projects. All committee assignments will remain the same. Will be adding a policy committee to bring some of the policies up to date and uniform across the department.
- PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING - Lew Kimble 223 Embree Crescent - Would like a seat at the table when it comes time to plan the building that will be done at Sid Fey/Houilhan. In addition to the bathrooms, he would like to see some storage and an office with meeting space by adding a second story. Russ Howell commented that maybe something like the meeting space at Gumbert. He would also like cameras installed on the fields for training purposes along with covered seating for the players. He is aware that Soccer doesn't own the field, but they would like to contribute for some of these extras. Lacrosse and Ultimate Frisbee maybe could be involved as well. He would also like Westfield Soccer to have the opportunity to bid on some of the soccer programs that are currently run by other organizations (USA Sports).
- TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT - Scott Katz is happy to be beginning his 4th year as liaison. He likes being part of this group. On behalf of the Human Relations Advisory Commission he wanted to invite everyone to the Library on January 17 a 7pm to a Sharing our Stories : Racial Healing Circle. This program will focus on affirming our common humanity rather than solving a problem. This is in partnership with Westfield Memorial Library and Rutgers, Newark.
- BOARD of EDUCATION LIAISON REPORT - No Report
- DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Megan Schaffer - Exciting stuff going on in the department. Jumping in with both feet. Meeting with DPW, Administration and the reps at Ben Schaeffer (Playground equipment) to assess the playgrounds and if any need repairs while under warranty. She would also like to add some structure to rental forms, presentations and requests to the commission.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **POOL: Tony Stewart** - Made a motion to increase membership fees (seniors will remain the same as 2022), swim lessons, dive clinic, swim team, guest passes, day pass & birthday parties approximately 10% from 2022 pricing. This will cover the increase in minimum wage, increases in chlorine and other pool related items. Ron Feldman seconded. Motion approved.
- **PARKS: Monica Bergin** - Megan met with DPW and Ben Schaeffer reps to map out the placement for the second phase of Windsor Park. The poured in place surface at Mindowaskin will be repaired in the coming weeks. There are also small repairs that will be made to the equipment and replacing the damaged sign. Communication boards will be ordered in the coming weeks as well for a spring install. Tamaques bathrooms have been inspected and work is starting this week. Camera installs and storage seem to be the unknown at this point but everything else is underway. Mayor Brindle highlighted some big projects for 2023 in her state of the town address so Megan would like commissioners to submit their top 5 large and small projects for a longer range plan.
- **FIELDS: No report**
- **FINANCE: No report**
- **PROGRAMS: Jeff Perrella/Linda Johnson** - Build Westfield with Legos is coming up on February 11, 2023 in Cafeteria B at WHS. There are 46 registered foursomes, 4 remaining. A waitlist will be created. Programs meeting to follow this meeting. Mark your calendars for Tour de Westfield on June 11, 2023. Volunteers will be needed. More information in the coming months.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Senior Citizen Transportation Communication - The bus driver was given a cell phone to use. Cards were printed to the resident can have someone call the driver once their appointment is finished. Hope to streamline the process a bit.
- Committee meeting schedule - Please email your dates to Megan.

Dates to Remember:

Next Scheduled Commission Meetings are on Mondays at 7:30pm,

February 6, 2023	May 1, 2023	No August meeting	November 6, 2023
March 6, 2023	June 5, 2023	September 11, 2023	December 4, 2023
April 3, 2023	July 10, 2023	October 2, 2023	