

*Town of Pembroke
Recreation Commission
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Pembroke Recreation Commission

Minutes of Meeting of Sept 26, 2023

Present: Director Lance Kennedy, Ginger Comeau, Eric Hurt, Corey Pento, Rachel Quinlan, Tim Folan, Grant Nickerson, Nicole Pedro; with George Grey joining at 7:49

Meeting opened @ 7:38 PM

Review of Minutes:

Commissioners reviewed minutes of the Aug 8, 2023 meeting. VOTE: Eric Hurt made a motion to accept the minutes of the meeting of Aug 8, 2023; seconded by Nicole Pedro. All in favor.

Director's Report (presented by Director Lance Kennedy):

- Community Center Construction Update:
Construction remains on track. The project appears to remain under budget, which will allow for additional gym storage and a well to provide the water supply for irrigation of the Town Green and Bezanson Field. The parking lot will likely be paved next week. Currently, the gym door remains off to allow for large deliveries of materials. Mr. Grey inquired if there are plans to include a larger overhead garage door for access in into the gym for lifts/ larger vehicles if needed. Final colors for furniture and flooring have been determined.
- Program Update:
After School program is up and running at Bryantville Elem, with 21 registered students; 2-3 new registrants were gained from the Pembroke Celebrates event. It is anticipated that the After School program will continue to grow upon relocation to the Community Center next school year.

A program guide is being developed by Director Kennedy, Asst. Director Fulmine and CoA director Gretchen Emmetts in anticipation of the opening of the new Community Center. Clarity remains needed as to which programs will fall under which department.

Following the successful participation of the Rec Dept at Pembroke Celebrates, Director Kennedy has been invited to participate in the Tree Lighting event to be

held 12/2/23. This year's event will be held on the green space in front of the First Church across the street from the Community Center site. Next year, it is anticipated that the event will return to the Community Center and Town Green on 12/7/24.

- Park Maintenance/ Projects Update:
A fields Usage/ Feasibility Study will provide immediate information and was approved for CPC funding. It will be on the ballot for the fall Town Meeting.
 - Magoun is to get a new infield with new clay product and sod, new bases, a movable home plate. Anticipated total is about \$47,000, with improvements to the infield, parking lot and surrounding drainage.
 - As part of the Usage/ Feasibility Study, an assessment of optimizing the capability of the field space will be provided, which includes the incorporation of the Brick Kiln playground.
 - Pembroke Youth Hockey has funds of up to \$80,000 which it would like to donate towards developing a street hockey rink in the community. Conversations are ongoing to get this project off the ground
 - The Master Planning Committee will be assessing how Magound Field, Brick Kiln Playground, and the potential skating rink can be linked, with the additional possibility of tying in a skate park while any concrete is being poured.
 - Bezanson Field would require approximately \$4million to resurface, with about \$3.2 for grass and about \$1million for lights. Funding for the turf would need to be separate from CPC funding.
 - Given extensive needs, CPC funding has approved \$25,000 for a survey of needs to best serve the community.
 - Town Manager William Chenard proposed a study to assess possibility of a septic system to manage a bath house at the Birch St. Playground, as well as at the Town property across from the Herring Run.
 - Currently, all Town Accesses are scheduled to have new boat landings installed. An accessible kayak ramp will also be installed at the Town Landing. New docks are anticipated for Town Landing, Furnace Colony, Little Sandy and Stetson Pond.

Town Meeting is scheduled for Oct 24, 2023, with all CPC funding requests requiring approval.

- Pembroke Youth Baseball/ Softball:
Baseball has yet to turn over financial statements for viewing by Rec Dept. Much of the leadership at PYBS has turned over. Elections will be held in Oct. Lights of the HS field are to be installed this fall.
Recreation and PYBS continue to work towards an appropriate resolution.

Discussion of “Entertainment on the Green” Event:

Attendance was calculated to be approximately 200. Community feedback that most were not aware of step d/u typical limitations. Expanding activities to fit the lighted area of the fields appears to optimize use.

Recreation commissioner Tim Folan suggested placing the Rec commission logo on the side of the Rock at Mattakeesett St.

Recreation Commission Eric Hurt proposed fewer “EoG” events for the summer, but w/ emphasis to make each one larger

Unified Basketball Program:

This will be the 9th season that Pembroke Rec is partnering with the unified Basketball Program. Chairperson Comeau is the program coordinator for New England Villages. The Unified program is open to adults aged 18+ who will partner with an athletes with disabilities. Practice will begin in late Nov, ending in early March. Chairperson Comeau will be scheduling an info night to reveal all targets prn.

Community Committee Updates:

- CPC Committee: Please refer to Program update.
- Master Plan Committee: Commissioner George Grey updated Recreation Commissioners on recent information. The response from the Town-wide study to illuminate priority concerns of residents was less than expected, though feedback from this summer’s open forums was shared with members of the Master Plan Committee. Next meeting is currently scheduled for 10/12/23. An informational table is to be set up at Flag Football on Oct 15 to provide community outreach and information; Commissioner Grey has developed a form for feedback. A second, more specific survey may be sent out to parse out more specific details based on previous responses, with emphasis on management/ curation of Town properties.
- Open Space Committee: nothing to report as no new meeting has been held.

Old Business:

No old business

Future Recreation Commission Meeting(s) Date(s) and Topics:

Tuesday, Oct 10 at 7:30 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Adjournment: 9:14 pm

VOTE: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Grant Nickerson, seconded by Corey Pento. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Rachel Quinlan