

Borough of West Reading Recreation Commission

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

Members present: Colleen English, Lori Hoffman, Heather Jagielski, Kristin Hawley, Jennifer Sundermier, Roger Hinsey, Rafael Torres

Members not present: Kris Singleton, Colleen English

Staff members present: Chris Boud, Recreation Director, Dean Murray

Borough Council Members present: Denise Drobnick (chairperson); Ryan Lineaweaver, Patrick Kaag

Present: Paige West, Monisha Knight, Bethany Bower, John "JD" Turner, Autumn Marley

Public Comment

Bethany Bower interested in joining West Recreation Commission.

Motion to accept the minutes from the March minutes made by Jennifer Sundermier. Seconded by Roger Hinsey. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Monisha Knight, owner of West Reading Hot Yoga proposed a 10-week series of moving meditation at the West Reading Park. This will take place Fridays, June 3rd through August 12th from 7:30 am – 8:45 am. It will be a donation based program with anticipated attendance between 8 – 10 people but able to include up to 25 attendees.

Motion to approve to use playground facilities without charging a fee made by Roger Hinsey; seconded by Lori Hoffman – Motion passes unanimously (7-0)

Easter Egg Hunt

Event update – volunteers needed at 10 am and volunteer duties on day of event - April 9, 2022

Patrick Kaag and Jamie Hoffert will dress as our Easter Bunnies. They will be available for pictures starting at 11:30. We have had over 100 children signed up as of tonight. Goody bags have been made.

Next event - Family Fun Night

- Coming up May 13, 2022 - event plans and volunteer needs
- Tickets are \$10 per person from 6:30 – 9:00
- DJ price \$150.00
- Jennifer and Chris are touring area next week
- Raffle items from various local establishments

Pool and Playground Program

- Applications are still going out. 2 more applications have come in.
- 8 returning guards, 1 concession stand workers and 2 playground leaders coming back
 - Waiting on three guards to get back to us
 - Need concession stand manager, front desk – posting on Indeed and social media
 - Would like at least 15 lifeguards to start the season

Lifeguard class at the pool – May 21st and May 22nd from 9 am to 5 pm

- Working on different fee rate for playground
 - Half day (resident rate): from \$175 to \$200 (\$5 per day)
 - Full day (resident rate): increase from \$350 to \$400 (\$8.75 per day)

- Non-resident rate increased from \$400 to \$500 (approved by Borough Council previously)
- Brown bag lunch; Will keep Lunchables on hand in case kids forget to bring lunch
- Field trips: looking into field trips but not sure about bussing; Reading Science Center willing to come to the Pavilion for program
- Pool rates
 - Increase family from \$325 to \$375
 - Additional child from \$25 to \$50
 - Babysitter from \$100 to \$150
 - Day pass from \$8 to \$10 (residents), from \$15 to \$18 (nonresidents)
 - 6-day pass from 45 to 50 (residents)
 - Pool parties: from \$7 to \$9 for residents, from \$10 to \$12 for non-residents
 - Non-resident rate for family: suggested \$600

Skate Park

- Putting in a mini ramp, concrete, single-use halfpipe, 35' x 35', also serve as a memorial to Gianni Molinari (West Reading resident), fully funded.
- Looking at 2 specific locations, one by the pool (in West Reading Borough) or by the basketball courts (in Reading)
- Skate parks often bring good, positive things to community; Bring more patronage to pool and concession stand
- Working with Reading Skate Park Association and JD Turner of Holistic Skate (in West Reading)
- Intended to serve as a memorial, including a mural

Discussed the plans and the committee expressed support for current plans as they move forward. 5th pocket has been contacted to design a professional rendering.

Motion to approve pocket skate park to be at near the basketball court made by Jennifer Sundermier, second by Kristin Hawley

Reading Fightin' Phils Fundraiser

Progress so far and reminder to promote ticket sales - avail at Borough Hall and online.

Ideas for New Events

Rafael Torres has come up with some ideas for new events for the Borough.

1. Community Bike Ride
 - a. Happening once a month
 - b. Free
 - c. Would need 2 to 3 volunteers per ride
 - d. All age groups welcome
 - e. Possibly on a Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. Avoiding second Friday.

East Ridge had done this previously and worked out well. Berks Area Mountain Bike Association might be helpful. Rafael Torres will come up with a date to share next meeting.

2. Adult Kick Ball Tournament

Volunteer Tent/Table at West Reading Events

Next WR event is Pretzel/Beer Fest April 23, 2022 – assess availability to man a volunteer table potentially in cooperation with other West Reading groups.

Volunteer table could also be set up during second Fridays.

QR codes to get to our information like volunteer sign-ups.

Comments:

Dean Murray - A 2-year bike share program is in the works. It would be free to the borough for the first two years. It works through the Movatic app. Two stations are already in Wyomissing and one station is in Wyomissing Park. The app shows how many bikes are available, where they are and has the ability to reserve bikes.

Ryan Lineaweaver suggested more advertisement for the Family Fun Night. He also suggested a member of the Recreation Commission be in charge of social media. Rafael Torres is now the head of internet promotions.

Motion to adjourn made by Jennifer Sundermier. Seconded by Kristin Hawley. Motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Next meeting: May 3, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Jagielski
Recreation Commission Member