

TOWN OF RICHMOND, RHODE ISLAND
5 Richmond Townhouse Road
Wyoming, RI 02898
(401) 539-9000 www.richmondri.com



RECREATION COMMISSION
Town Hall – Council Chambers
April 28, 2022
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

A) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 P.M. by Robin Woodmanse

B) SWEARING IN AND MEMBERSHIP ROLL CALL

Present: Robin Woodmansee, Courtney Olean Paige, Kerly Way and Meredith Cote. Also in attendance was Laurie Grandchamp.

C) NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Move to approve the minutes:
 - a) All inattendance approve.
- 2) Recreation Commission information on town website:
 - a) Check out town website not located there
 - b) Agenda isn't on the town website - should it be?
 - c) Robin to follow up with Erin about being on website
- 3) Morgan review of Egg Hunt
 - a) Too much food
 - b) Egg hunt was quick - 10-11
 - c) Breakfast can be shorter next year (30 mins)
 - d) Egghust can be all over the playground for older kids
 - e) Was pouring when set up
 - f) Kids were happy - parents were happy

- g) 2000 eggs - all were taken
 - h) Number attended: 40-50 kids
 - i) Dennis from sr. the center was bunny - but was hot so had kept taking the head off.
 - j) Suggestion to get another bunny next year.
 - k) Food: Mini muffin mini donuts, mini cinnamon roll, all from BJs
 - l) Next year - better to have a rain date
 - m) Had to have custodian - Charge 3-5 hours (overtime b/c of on the weekend)
 - n) Morgan did the indoor b/c Sally had in the past
 - o) Bathroom access?
 - p) Plan early enough to have a day
- 4) Recreation Department review with Morgan
- a) Recreation Commission is happy to help
 - Tree lighting - yes
 - Maybe easter egg hunt to fill up eggs
 - Huck Finn day - all set
 - b) Bunny - Those looking for volunteer hours can help in future - day of and filling up eggs taking pictures
 - c) Ideas for distribution of event:
 - Pay for play - post it as an event
 - Put it in Richmond School for distribution
 - Email it to the principal - will be put in email newsletter
 - Churches - will distribute
 - Stake sign - outside of the town hall
 - Amy @ Finish Line signs - will change out the date
 - Waldorff school email (Kerly has a connection) but only want Richmond Residents
 - Flyers for libraries - coffee shops (Alainas, Higher Grounds) - post office
- 5) Camp for Richmond and out of town:
- a. Available via town website
 - b. At 60 registration currently
 - c. Registration doesn't close until 1 week
 - d. Registration pays for counselors
 - e. Ratio is 1:10
 - f. 9-3 is new this year
 - g. Field trip - zoos and biomes
 - h. Grant is covering the bus
 - i. 1 vendor coming each week
 - Dels
 - Ice cream
 - Snow cones - Hawaiian ice
 - j. Desire to do more water days this year (kids love getting wet)
 - k. Can send it to other schools (Gina Picard approves it and Sharon can send it)
- 6) Recreation budget:
- a) \$2k spend by June 30th for 2022 fiscal year. Does not roll over, 2023, \$2k available to us.
 - b) Can we use it for deposits ahead of the event happening?

7) Survey Results:

- a) Demographics: Majority were 41+
- b) 62 respondents
- c) Ideas in the top 3 ranked:
 - Family events were focus:
 - (1) Date night
 - (2) Middle school aged events
 - Ice skating rink got the most attention and desire
 - (1) Local company will do it
 - (2) Will be basic but still doable
 - Family bingo night
 - (1) Pay a \$1 per board - so many
 - Family Game night
 - Battle of the bands
 - Date night/story hour
- d) Free comments section:
 - Skate boarding > school vacations > work with other towns to do recreation programs > summer > library does story time promote your library > recreation center > town festivals that bring people together (harvest festival or mayfair) > tennis courts > pickleball court

8) Tennis and Pickleball: What would it look like to do pickleball? 2 pickleball areas can fit in one tennis court

- a) Robin - got school and town together
 - Whose responsibility is the tennis court? It is RES's responsibility.
 - They lease it and are not currently maintaining it.
 - Robin to dig into what is happening the lot across from

9) Question about grant money?

1. Is across the road a project? What is it?
2. Discussion about a playground - is that the best area for a playground? There is one across the street?
3. Robin discussed recreation facility experience
 - YMCA said if Town will build it they will run it
 - Town can lease the land if YMCA will build it
 - Didn't seem like a partnership
4. Laurie Grandchamp - Dept. Environmental Management has grant writing experience

10) To pick 4 events to focus on:

- **Family Movie night**
 - Morgan husband band
 - Projector - from Camp
 - Will we need a license (\$100)
 - Can we do it at the school?
 - Company to do it?
- **Ice Rink:**
 - Let the town know

- This costs \$\$ that we don't have
- We can assist with this
- If the build it we can do the promotion and help
- **Bingo night**
 - Low cost
 - School / Gym
 - Rent tables and chairs
- **Battle of the band/ Idol**
 - Can incorporate food trucks in this
 - 4-6 weeks
 - Starts in August-September
- **Preteen - teen Game night**
- **Tree lighting**
- **Tennis Courts:**
 - Guestimate - \$50-60K
 - Use events to fundraise for
 - Robin to schedule a meeting with Karen about \$\$ funds for COVID that has to be used for recreational purposes?
 - Laura Cacchiolo - started a grant - perhaps to be used for lot across the street -
 - Karen Pinch replied to Christine Hendrick: playground/basketball court/pavillion/bathrooms etc. - not sure can change it to pickleball b/c basketball was what was on the grant
 - Can't use the them when school is in session
 - Can we fix the existing tennis court or build new
- **Farmers Market**
 - Was here in Town hall then moved up to Beaver river family moved away.
 - Farmers are interested
 - DEM is involved with farmers markets - Laurie to talk about how to start up farmer's market
 - Residents of the area to participate or others from out of town?
 - Farmer's market items vs. MLMs
 - People ask about exclusivity vs. maybe two per
 - How about the Health and Wellness interested in it?
- **Bridge fix:**
 - Reach out to the land trust re: bridge
 - Eagle scout project?
 - Email Jim P. about the
- **Food truck nonprofits**
 - Jim P did it in the past
 - PVD Food truck guy will need to be managed
 - Need to be direct to be aware of of where they are
 - Need to tell where they are going to be
 - Leverage the outlook account to reach out to existing non profits
 - Courtney will email Jim

11) Next Meeting:

- May 19 @ 6:00pm

12) Next steps:

- Courtney to figure out where on website
- Meredith - slide for town council
- Robin to meet with Karen about:
 - Events we're going to do?
 - Plans for the covid grant
- Plans for grant across street
- Can we do fundraising for specific events
- Laurie to join Recreation Commission and will reach out to DEM about a farmer's market for more info and Chief of Agriculture division
- Kerley will email about the land trust about bridge and trails maintained

D) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made by Courtney Olean Paige, SECOND by All in attendance to adjourn at 8:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Olean Paige
Secretary, Recreation Commission