

Warren Township Recreation Advisory Committee
Minutes of January 12, 2022 Meeting

The meeting of the Warren Township Recreation Advisory Committee convened at 7:06 pm on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, virtually via Zoom due to the pandemic and keeping consistent with the social distance order.

Open Public Meeting Statement - Adequate notice of this meeting was given by posting a copy on the Township Bulletin Board and sending a copy to the Township Clerk, Courier News, and Echoes Sentinel as required by the Open Public Meeting Act.

In attendance were: Linda Bosco-Devine, David Cole, Zachary Drozd, Aparna Virmani, Daniel Croson, Joe Filo, Heather Silver, Recreation Director Joe Passaro, Township Committee Person Jolanta Maziarz and Township Committee Person Gary DiNardo.

Recreation Advisory Committee Secretary, Amanda Frech asked for nominations of a chairperson. Daniel Croson nominated Zachary Drozd as Chair, Aparna Virmani 2nd with all others in favor.

Zachary Drozd motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes from December 1, 2021 and Linda Bosco-Devine 2nd.

OLD BUSINESS

501c3- Dave reached out to the prior 501c3 chair to try and gather more information and paperwork about the 501c3 and did not get anything back. Since the Advisory Committee has received all the information, they could about the prior 501c3 Zach told Aparna to send out an email separately from the committee to start up the 501c3.

DIRECTORS REPORT- Joe Passaro reviewed key points from the Directors Report.

- Winter festival postponed by TC for COVID AND WEATHER EVENT. It is to be re-scheduled in the near future.
- Pavilion project due to go the Bidding process shortly, hoping for a spring start and late summer early fall completion.
 - Municipal baseball field improvement project just went through bidding process, and we are working to finalize that as to get a start in the spring/summer.
 - Municipal Rec. area project is still in planning phase as we continue to work with the Engineers on site plan, this does include a new playground, new basketball courts and resurfacing of existing courts. I did get another grant for this project of \$55,000 from the State. Mark Krane asked me to hold off from putting out press releases on the Pavilion grant and this grant.
- Annual Sports Forum will be held Feb.2nd at 7:00 pm via Zoom
- Sport Recognition Dinner will be held in March and we are finalizing those plans. Will be held mid-March and the Recreation Advisory Board will be invited.

NEW BUSINESS & DISCUSSION

Joe Passaro stated that the Winter Festival is tentatively scheduled for March 5th. He also stated that all vendors would be available for that date. Jolanta Maziarz will inform the Township Committee of the new date and allow them to vote on it at the January 27th meeting. Jolanta asked the committee to not share the new date until the Township Committee votes on it since the date could change due to COVID numbers and we do not want to have the information out to the public at this time.

Joe Passaro stated that the department is working on how summer camp will be run this year with modifications due to construction at the Municipal Grounds and COVID protocols. He stated that he will keep the committee up on the plans for camp once it has been decided.

Zach asked when the annual report about recreation is given to the Township Committee. Joe Passaro stated that the liaisons bring back the updates regarding different programs and projects to the Township Committee. He stated that he would create an annual report if the Township Committee would like him to.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Gary DiNardo stated that he has received many phone calls from residents regarding high interest in pickle ball courts in town and he would like to see that project move forward sooner than later. Joe Passaro stated that he has discussed putting pickle ball courts at Greenwood Meadows and at least with the resurfacing of the tennis courts to make one court designated for pickle ball. Gary suggested putting a designated pickle ball court with lights at the Municipal Grounds. It was stated that tennis is very popular in Warren so it would make sense to build designated courts for pickle ball. Dave Cole stated that it is important to not have pickle ball courts in a residential area due to the noise. Joe stated that the only problem with putting it at the Municipal Grounds is that we are running out of room so we may need to look for a different site. Heather stated that Pleasant Valley Park in Basking Ridge has pickle ball courts so it might be helpful for the committee to look at the courts for when we plan ours.

Zach asked Joe for a list of capital projects in writing to be distributed to the committee before the next meeting as it would be helpful with to have transparency. He also stated that the projects do not need to be in order of when the project will start.

ADJOURNMENT 7:38 PM Next meeting, Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 7 pm - Warren Town Hall Springdale Conference Room

Submitted by: Amanda Frech, Recreation Advisory Committee Secretary