

# ASHFORD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY 5/9/22 7:00 PM

### Call to Order (7:20 technical difficulties)

1. **Introductions** – Dave Roston, former chairperson  
2 new prospects, Amanda Holden interested in secretary's role and Alaina Philippi not available this evening.
2. **Public to be heard** - None
3. **Financial Report** –Budget for next fiscal year passed on 5/3/22 YTD - Income has made a good come back, were currently close to 28,000, and expense report not available. FYE coming up we will double check numbers and identify any budget issues.

### Old Business

1. **Current Programs** Gymnastics (expanded two 2 classes) Tai Chi, & Yoga running class sizes are small.
2. **Swim Lessons/ Swim Club** currently running with about 40 kids
3. **Pickleball** – starting up again, beginner class on Mondays. Resurfacing of tennis court plan is to use ARPA funding to resurface court, town meeting to approve coming up soon, hope to get approval, and get work scheduled this summer. Discussion about 2 or 4 pickleball courts, Leslie suggested to request 4 and see if its feasible if not we will get 2. Orientation will be the same as the tennis court.
4. **Summer Concerts** The Three, 5,7, band will play on July 5<sup>th</sup>, Nightshift with Kenny Hicks from Coventry will play on July 12<sup>th</sup> and we have lined up an Eagles Tribute band called Already Gone for July 26<sup>th</sup>. We need 2 decide on the other two shows \$1,200 left in budget and food vendors. Discussion ensued with suggestions about a Prince impersonator, Val Rogers and Red Satin, Duos or Trios. Andrew mentioned a comedy night as a possible fund raiser. Sherry to finish the bookings in the next few weeks
5. **Commissioners' Terms** renewals and positions to be filled. Garth and Neil to be renewed. Neil said yes. Garth is questionable as his plans for travel, retirement, and the future develop.

### New Business

1. **Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> & Ashford Day Celebration (Bill Falletti)** has a plan to revitalize the holidays in town and would like to have the Rec. Dept. get involved. Discussion ensued about parade, softball game, ceremony, fireworks and how the Rec. Dept might support this endeavor. Asked people about their availability and learned that most of our commissioners and families are away for the long weekends. APRC to tread lightly on commitments for the holiday weekends. Our concert season will kick off on the Tuesday after the 4<sup>th</sup> each year!

2. **Parks Maintenance** – Sherry updated on picnic table repair by Wayne Pekarovic
3. at **Ashford Memorial Park**, and the need for playground mulch,
4. **Pompey Hollow Park**, plantings by tennis court need to be maintained, and bridges and overlook on the trail by senior center needs to be painted. Andrew with a possible idea for getting some volunteer help with the projects.

Sherry reported that Ashford Memorial Park is getting a lot of use. Baseball & Softball teams playing and practicing, 2 soccer teams practicing, 1 lacrosse team using fields. Big opening day festivities for Baseball on April 30<sup>th</sup> and

5 reservations of the pavilion for parties already this season. We discussed all the use of the fields, liability and reservations policies and if we should be charging.

5. **Summer Programs**, Bike Camp, Swim Lessons, are planned. We also hope to run outdoor Basketball at the park again. Trying hard to get Summer Camp off the ground. There are many logistical obstacles to Summer Camp, primarily staff.
6. **Labor Day 5K**, No answer back from Last Mile Racing Co. yet.

**Adjourn** Meeting closed at 8:50

Minutes written and submitted by Sherry York for Sandi Moquin

**Parks and Recreation.....The Benefits are Endless!**