

**ASHFORD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL RECREATION OFFICE
TUESDAY, 10/10/23 7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:23 p.m. Director Sherry York was present. Andrew Doering was the only seated member in attendance. Therefore, Steve Galinat was seated for Dan Kehoe, Amanda Holden was seated for Leslie Bizilj, and Dave Roston was seated for Garth Bean.

A. Public to be Heard: No public members were present.

B. Minutes (from Aug. 14th and Sept. 11th):

i. **August 14th:** Errors were discovered in the August minutes with two names misspelled. Corrections will be made to change the name “Doring” to “Doering” and “Gallant” to “Galinat”.

1. Amanda Holden made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. Steve Galinat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ii. **September 11th:** No meeting was held during September. An email was sent stating, “On September 11, 2023 a Recreation Commission Meeting was scheduled. The meeting was canceled at the last minute due to no notification and an agenda was submitted. The next Recreation Commission meeting shall be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM. October 9, Columbus Day, a scheduled State Holiday.”

1. Andrew Doering made a motion to approve the notice and Steve Galinat seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Financial Report YTD: There is no official report to review. However, Sherry did share that the total fiscal year end revenue (from 7/1/22-6/30/23) should be close to \$39,788.00.

i. Sherry shared deposited incomes from various programs (from 7/1/23 to present). This current total is \$3,139.00

2. Old Business

A. Fall Program Update & Evaluations (Family Day): Family Day was very well attended this year. There were more organizations involved and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The kids in particular had many activities to keep themselves busy from a blow up obstacle course to face painting, henna, hair braiding, balloons, etc. The bands that played were energetic and made for a fun atmosphere. In addition, lots of local organizations provided food such as corn on the cob, lemonade, ice cream, snow-cones, etc.

i. APRC took in \$609 dollars. They charged \$4.00 for burgers and \$2.00 for hot dogs. They spent \$456 dollars on burgers, cheese, hotdogs, and condiments. About another \$51.00 was spend on rolls and \$7.00 for ice. This totaled about \$514.00 in expenses. The total profit for this event was about \$94.00.

B. Gymnastics, Start Smart Soccer, Upcoming Bus Trips, Pickleball Potluck Palooza

i. Gymnastics has 25 kids enrolled. Another instructor had to be hired.

ii. Start Smart Soccer has 14 kids enrolled. However, the timing of this program is difficult due to other usage at the park.

- iii. Upcoming Bus Trips have had varied participation. The Boston bus trip was cancelled due to not enough interest, however the New York City trip is filling up quickly.
- iv. The Pickleball Potluck Palooza is scheduled for 10/15/23 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to bring a dish and stay to play.

C. Update on After School Program

- i. This program is an excellent addition to the community and very well received. Currently, there are 18-22 students in the program. Cindy Ford was able to find a grant to offset the cost so the program is free this school year.

3. New Business

- A. Halloween Party:** On 10/28/23 the Halloween Party will take place at Camp Connri. There will be arts & crafts, a trick or treat trail, cider and donuts, etc. This year will be pirate themed.
- B. Quiet Corner Challenge:** On 10/29/23 Ashford Memorial Park will host the first leg of the 10K which is sponsored by Last Mile Racing. This event will start at 8:00 a.m. and should take only about an hour. The remainder of the 10K will be run in Hampton and Chaplin.
- C. Turkey Trot:** This will happen on 11/12/23 and is a self-paced event. For every loop around the Stone Dust Trail that is completed you will receive a raffle ticket. These tickets will be drawn for various Thanksgiving treats.
- D. Carol Sing/Tree Lighting:** This event will take place on 12/3/23 from 4:30-7:00. After the Carol Sing the Christmas tree will be lit in front of Babcock Hall. Then all are welcome inside for soup, treats, and time with Santa. Music will be provided by the Babcock Band.
- E. Upcoming Basketball Season-Lakes League:** Practices will start the first week of November. There is a coaches meeting on 10/23/23. Once the normal season has started programs for high schooler and 1st-2nd graders will begin.
 - i. This year Sherry is working on finding high school kids interested in refereeing the 3rd-4th grade teams. These students will receive training.
- F. Parkes AMP & PMP Maintenance – Ashford Baseball Requests:** Baseball has asked the Ashford Parks and Recreation for playable fields and improved maintenance, especially for Fall Ball. Discussion ensued regarding the fields. It was requested that a member from the Mansfield-Ashford Little League Board be invited to the next meeting.
- G. Capital Improvements: Basketball Course at AMP resurfaced:** The commissioners all agreed that this would be very beneficial. Andrew Doering made a motion to put this project forward as part of the improvements needed. Steve Galinant seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- H. Miscellaneous:** No miscellaneous items for discussion.

- 4. Closing adjourn:** Andrew Doering made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Amanda Holden seconded the motion, and all other members were in favor. The meeting ended at 10:19 p.m.