

Town of Amherst Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 8, 2021
5:00pm via Zoom

Attendees:

Dick Duquin
Tim Gardner
Pam Hart (excused)
Kim Kriner
Michael MacDonald (excused)

Jacqui Berger, Amherst Town Board Liaison
Mary-Diana Pouli, Executive Director/Youth & Recreation Department
Eric Guzdek, Recreation Specialist/Youth & Recreation Department

Call to Order

- A. Mr. Gardner called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.
- B. *Mrs. Kriner made a motion to approve the minutes from May 2021, seconded by Mr. Duquin. Motion passed.*

Presentation/Public Comment – None

Old Business

A. Non-resident Pool Pass

Ms. Pouli reported that since the Town Board approved the sale of a non-resident pool pass, 9 passes have been sold and she expects that number to go up.

B. Bassett Park Rentals

Bassett Park will be very busy this summer with yoga classes, high school concerts, dance recitals, cultural events, the Summer Concert Series, and a farmers' market on the second Sunday of each month.

New Business – None

Liaison Report

Ms. Berger reported on her continuing work with golf and the sports fields at the North Amherst Recreation Center.

Executive Director/Youth & Recreation Department Report

Ms. Pouli relayed that the department is gearing up for the summer season. Unfortunately, due to insufficient staffing, some programs/classes may have to be cancelled. The Town Board approved a bonus program to help entice job applicants. The Summer Concert Series on Wednesdays will resume at Bassett Park with concerts by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Amherst Glee Club, the American Legion Band of the Tonawandas, etc. Ms. Pouli also spoke about a free Shakespeare in the Park performance on August 6th that will be by registration only. Finally, a parent of a Williamsville Central School District has sponsored a "2021" sign at Bassett Park for graduates to use for pictures.

Facilities Report

Mr. Guzdek reported on the continuing work at the North Amherst Recreation Center regarding the football fields. He explained that a baseball field at the Lou Gehrig Youth Baseball complex is being expanded. At the Mathewson McCarthy complex, the lighting is being worked on. Improvements are also being made at the Central Amherst Little League fields.

Chairperson Report

Mr. Gardner asked Ms. Pouli to give an update on the most recent Amherst Central Park Task Force meeting due to him not being able to make the meeting. Ms. Pouli reported that the project keeps moving forward with an

update next month on field relocations. Finally, Mr. Gardner announced that Mr. Durawa has had to resign from the Commission. The Commission appreciates his service and wishes him well.

Liaison Reports

- A. Daemen College, AYB, Football – No report
- B. Skatepark, Parks & Playgrounds, Amherst Skating Club – No report
- C. High School Baseball, Little League Baseball, Youth Softball, Adult Softball – No Report
- D. Golf – Mr. Duquin gave a report on rounds and on the maintenance of the Audubon Golf Course and Par 3. Things are going well under Indigo's management.
- E. Ice Hockey, Town Recreation Facilities – No report
- F. Individuals with disabilities – No report
- G. Racquet Sports, Soccer, Lacrosse – No report

Correspondence

None

Press Releases/News Articles

None

July 2021 Recreation Commission Meeting

Mr. Duquin made a motion to skip the July Commission meeting and meet again in August, seconded by Mrs. Kriner. Motion passed.

Adjournment

Mr. Gardner moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Kriner. Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Next meeting is August 10, 2021 at 5:00pm via Zoom