

Town of Newburgh
Parks Board
Minutes July 6, 2017

Members Present:

Mary Ann Wilsbacher, Wanda Kavanaugh, Kevin Reine

Administrative Present:

Christy Powell, Town Manager; Stacie Krieger, Council Liaison; Attorney Raymond Dudlo, Legal

Members & Administrative Absent:

Ron Keller; Andrea Balboni, Administrative Assistant

Advisory Board Members Present:

None

Citizens Present:

None

Minutes:

Kevin Reine made a motion to accept the May 25, 2017 minutes.

Wanda Kavanaugh seconded, no discussion and the minutes were approved.

Wanda Kavanaugh made a motion to accept the June 1, 2017 minutes.

Kevin Reine seconded, no discussion and the minutes were approved.

Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present:

None

New Business:

None

REPORTS:

Town Council Liaison:

Stacie Krieger stated that Historic Newburgh, Inc. just had their annual fireworks display and she heard about ten thousand (10,000) people came out. Wanda Kavanaugh stated she had never seen so many people down at the fireworks and would not be surprised if there was twelve thousand (12,000). Mrs. Krieger stated that she has heard a lot of positive reviews and the parking situation was a lot better this year. Wanda Kavanaugh suggested bigger buses next year and Mrs. Krieger stated that it is hard to find bigger buses and the cost is so much more. Mrs. Krieger stated that VIP button sales were down this year.

Pool Report:

First Four Week Recap

Andrea Balboni had prepared a list of figures for each Board Member and also had a sheet of her thoughts since she could not be at the meeting. Christy Powell went over the information on the sheets.

- Everything has been running great so far this season.
- Small hiccup at first with a few of the guards from last year and Alyssa's new rules. Everyone now seems to understand and follow her lead.
 - Christy Powell stated that not only are they following her lead but everyone seems to be having fun at the pool. Mrs. Powell stated that she was at the pool during the last Family Fun Night and the guards are working but you can tell they are enjoying their jobs.

- Slides are open all the time now – have received a lot of compliments for that.
- Five of the umbrellas have been broken (1 kid hanging on one and 4 due to wind during the day). Gerald has magically fixed them all.
 - Christy Powell stated that the umbrellas are just not sturdy enough for the pool and stated next year we will need to look into a more sturdy shade structure.
- People have been coming in for lap swimming during the designated times.

Christy Powell stated there is a spreadsheet (*First Four Weeks – Front Gate Admissions Only*) that compares 2015, 2016 & 2017 front gate admissions.

- Admissions for 2017 are up each week compared to 2015 & 2016.
- Mrs. Balboni feels that all the updates, rate changes and social media posts are working.

Christy Powell stated that there is also a spreadsheet (*First Four Week Daily Totals*) that shows the first four weeks admissions, family passes, punch passes, swim lessons, swim team, and miscellaneous revenue totals.

- Admission totals include the \$3.00, \$2.00, \$0.75 & \$0.50.
- Mrs. Balboni originally thought punch passes would sell more than family passes, but the first four weeks shows more family passes being purchased.
 - Mrs. Balboni is interested to see what the punch passes do towards the end of the season.
 - Kevin Reine stated that he likes the punch passes and would like to see them next year.
- Swim Lessons have been very popular
 - Session I at 10am – 4 people with 3 groups (skill levels were too far apart to merge)
 - Session I at 6pm = 8 people with 3 groups (skill levels were too far apart to merge)
 - Session I also had 1 private lesson with 2 kids in it. Private lessons pay the guards directly.
 - Session II at 10am = 20 people with 4 groups (5 in each group)
 - Session II at 6pm = 21 people with 5 groups
 - Session II there were 3 private lessons with 5 kids in the lessons. Private lessons pay the guards directly.
- Misc. Revenue
 - We have only sold 3 diapers the first 4 weeks. Signs are now in both bathrooms and at the front desk letting people know they are available and the cost.

Mrs. Powell stated the last spreadsheet (*First Four Week Daily Admission Totals*) shows how many people came into the pool each day.

- The first 4 weeks had 3 Family Fun Nights
 - Water Safety Night (Attendance = 15)
 - Advance Disposal Night - Free Food & Free Entry (Attendance = 183)
 - River Sweep Night (Attendance = 84)
- 45th Anniversary Party was not very busy
 - 23 @ \$0.75
 - 29 at \$0.50
 - Cloudy, Rainy & Father's Day
- No Movie Night in the first 4 weeks
- Pool closed at 4:30pm on June 3rd due to vomit in the pool
 - For the next week we had people enter the pool with reentry vouchers
- Good turn out every day of Family Pass holders

- Punch Passes are hit or miss some days
- Any day with an attendance of lower than 100 - has been marked with the weather conditions or an explanation as to why Mrs. Balboni feels the numbers are low.

Swim Team Recap

- Swim Team has seventeen (17) kids on it.
- Twenty (20) kids applied – Three (3) could not swim the length of the pool.
 - One (1) of those kids went into swim lessons the other two (2) did not.
- Price for swim team = \$75.00 per kid.
- Booster paid \$25.00 per kid so each parent only had to pay \$50.00 per kid.
- \$100.00 donation from Bill went to purchase the swim team shirts.
- Due to the timing of swim team, unable to purchase ribbons in time for the meets at home. Did not hand out ribbons at the meets.
 - Christy Powell stated that there were some upset parents and that we will have ribbons next year.
- We had three (3) meets scheduled for the first week (June 19 – 22).
 - Had to cancel June 22nd meet with Brittlebank due to rain. That date will not be made up since we will be competing against Brittlebank on July 13th.
- Swim Team end of the season party is on July 14th at 7pm.
- During meets there was some confrontation between Alyssa and a few parents but Alyssa handled it well.
 - The complaints were about the organization, ribbons and timing.

Mary Ann Wilsbacher referenced the First Four Weeks – Front Gate Admissions Only spreadsheet and gave the follow figures:

2015 = 2,392

2016 = 3,374

2017 = 4,344

Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that 2017 is up 82% compared to 2015 and up 29% compared to 2016. Mrs. Wilsbacher reminded everyone that 2015 was very rainy. It was so rainy that the ground was saturated with water and that is when they took the trees next to the shelter house down. 2016 also had a lot of rainy days and so far in 2017 we have had cooperating weather.

Mrs. Wilsbacher also stated that she totaled up the front date admissions, family night admissions, 45th anniversary admissions, reentry numbers, family pass entries and punch pass entries and so far this first four weeks has seen five thousand four hundred eighty three (5,483) people come to the pool.

Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that she talked to Alyssa Hammel about the swim team and the Boosters have still yet to pay the twenty five dollars (\$25) for three (3) of the swim team members.

Fundraising Committee:

Park Pals

Christy Powell stated that she feels like we are still in the planning phase of Park Pals. Mrs. Powell stated that she and Andrea Balboni will take another look at the levels and make sure that what we are offering is something that we can do.

Mary Ann Wilsbacher would like to go to the merchants and see if they would donate. Stacie Krieger stated that the merchants get asked to donate to a lot and it is hard to get them to donate. Ms. Krieger stated that having a corporate level is not a bad idea but to reach out to some bigger companies within Warrick County.

Wanda Kavanaugh wanted to know if we could use the ping pong table donations as a way to show business and organizations that it just does not have to be money they can donate. They can donate equipment, money or even time.

Stacie Krieger stated that a few years ago Historic Newburgh, Inc. (HNI) had a get together at a few residents' homes to discuss raising money for flower baskets. Mrs. Krieger stated we could arrange a get together to explain Parks Pals and raise money. Mrs. Krieger stated they raised enough money to do the flower baskets for two (2) years between the four (4) meetings they had.

Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated that the Water Street residents paid for the first Emerald Ash Borer treatment and that will be coming up again next spring.

Raymond Dudlo stated that one of the issues with Park Pals at this stage is the organization structure. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that the Parks Board is autonomous from Town Council and she believed that Parks Board would be in charge of Parks Pals.

Mrs. Powell stated that she would like to set aside some time with Andrea Balboni and Mary Ann Wilsbacher to go over the Parks Pals structure, donation levels and get a more structured feel to the brochure. Once that has been completed it will go in front of Parks Board and we can start promoting it.

Ping Pong Tables

Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated that the ping pong tables are in. Mrs. Wilsbacher will call and see when we can pick them up along with their dimensions. A discussion was had on where the ping pong tables will go.

Raymond Dudlo stated that the New Lock and Dam Park would be a wonderful place for one of the ping pong tables. Christy Powell stated that she can call the Lockmaster to see if they would like one out there. Mr. Dudlo suggested setting one up at Lou Dennis Park under the shelter and putting the other in storage until we have a good location for it to go.

Rivertown Trail:

Trail Ranger

Christy Powell explained that the Rivertown Trail Committee has issues with maintenance and enforcement. Christy Powell stated she is still working on the job description and funding and this has not gone before Finance Committee. The Trail Ranger would be a face on the trail to report issues, greet trail users and enforce rules on the trail.

Wanda Kavanaugh asked if there was a way to have multiple Trail Rangers using volunteers.

Christy Powell stated at this time since she is still working on the job description, rule enforcement rights and financing that this topic be tabled.

Bench

Wanda Kavanaugh asked if there was any way to get another bench installed on the trail. Mrs. Kavanaugh stated they need one so bad near the second driveway cutout. Mrs. Kavanaugh stated that it is the sidewalk is the widest in that section. Christy Powell stated that she will take the request to the Rivertown Trail Committee.

Rivertown Trail 5K:

Kevin Reine stated they still have not had a meeting to recap the race. Mr. Reine knows they did better than last year but he does not have any figures at this time.

PARK AREA REPORTS

Lou Dennis:

Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated that she pulled weeds at the park on Monday, July 3rd. Mrs. Wilsbacher went to check on the Lou Dennis tree and she stated that it is growing beautifully.

Mrs. Wilsbacher also stated that the shelter house had some staples in the posts again along with some strings hanging down. Mrs. Wilsbacher also stated that people are still driving back to the shelter. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that if we block off one area they will drive around back and drive even more through the park. Christy Powell stated that she will continue to think of a solution.

Old Lock and Dam Park and Dock:

Christy Powell stated that the ramp is open and the dock will be installed sometime next week. Mrs. Powell stated that the Street Department used some of the dirt to fill in the swing areas and the area around the merry-go-round. Wanda Kavanaugh stated the area that we had as the proposed parking lot area is low and could use some dirt. A discussion was then had about the proposed parking lot.

While discussing the proposed parking lot and what would need to be done to get one, Christy Powell mentioned the current pool and current park structure and that the Park Board needs to think about what will happen with that in a few years. Mrs. Powell stated that she is always on the lookout for grants and has been especially looking for splash park grants. Mrs. Powell stated that if we had to do an overhaul of the pool and/or park area, she would not want to do any work that we would have to undo.

Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated she feels a pool overhaul will have to take place sooner rather than later. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that Randy Wheeler was in the pool and noticed bubbles from the liner. Mrs. Powell stated that there are some small holes in the liner itself and will need to be replaced soon. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that in the five (5) year plan, we need to mention that we need to address the bond issue to fix the pool.

Wanda Kavanaugh stated that she is worried about admissions and would want to wait to see the pool totals for this year before we issue bonds. Mrs. Kavanaugh stated that she drove by Hartkee Pool recently and there were not even a dozen people in the pool. Mrs. Powell stated that the bond would not necessarily have to be for a pool but it could be for a giant splash pad or a lazy river or something outside the box of a traditional swimming pool.

Wanda Kavanaugh stated that she has seen a commercial lately that shows a tripod swing that someone in the wheelchair can wheel up to, hook on to and swing while still in their wheelchair. Mrs. Kavanaugh stated she would like to see a whole handicap playground at Lou Dennis Park. Christy Powell stated she will look into the swing.

Lockmaster Cottages:

Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated that she talked to one of her friends that clean houses and she is unable to do it. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that if anyone knows of anyone else to let Christy Powell know. Christy Powell stated we are just looking for someone to do a deep clean every once in a while.

Kevin Reine had no report on the cottages.

Christy Powell stated that there has been some issue at Town Hall with people parking overnight. Christy stated that she ordered two signs that show when cars are allowed to park. Mrs. Powell stated that she is only going to use one at the Town Hall building and wanted to know if we wanted to use the other at the cottages.

Mrs. Powell stated that we do have the sign that states the park closes at dark but thought this sign would be another way to make sure no one is up there when they are not supposed to be. Everyone thought it would be a great idea.

Indian Hill Overlook:

Wanda Kavanaugh stated the park looks great.

Master Plan:

Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated that Andrea Balboni gave the surveys to Christy Powell and she will compile the information and that she has started to type up the history and park descriptions.

Christy Powell stated that she will be putting all the information into graphs. Once all that information is compiled they then need to present that information in a public forum setting. Mrs. Powell stated the last time they did this they had two (2) groups. One (1) was public and one (1) was a group of invited individuals within the community.

Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated she thinks we should do the two (2) meetings sometime in September, possibly right after Labor Day.

Unfinished Business:

None.

Miscellaneous Business:

Christy Powell stated that Misty Heck is asking the Parks Board for a 2018 Family Pass for the Warrick County 4-H Fair. It was discussed that a motion was passed to only donate to elementary schools. The request was denied.

Christy Powell asked the Parks Board if she could ask Alyssa Hammel to continue on as our Pool Manager. The Parks Board was in agreement. Mary Ann Wilsbacher stated that she would like Ms. Hammel to attend the August meeting so they can ask her.

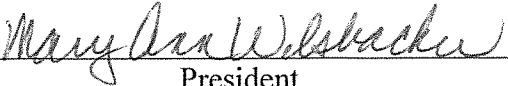
Announcements:

None.

Discussion:

Mary Ann Wilsbacher made a motion to adjourn.
Wanda Kavanaugh seconded and the motion carried.

Next Meeting will be **August 3, 2017** at 6:00 pm.



President

Recorder