

(These minutes are not approved until the next Commission meeting.)

City of West Branch Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting  
6:30p.m. Wednesday July 7, 2021  
Zoom Meeting

Commissioner Douglas Klein opened the meeting at 6:30pm. Roll was called with Commission Members Douglas Klein, Angie Miller, Shane Staker and Kristin Rood present. Commissioners James Ellyson, Brian Pierce, and Tom Burger were absent. Parks & Recreation Director Melissa Russell was present.

**Approve agenda/consent agenda/Move to action.**

Approve agenda and minutes from the March 11, 2021, Park and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Motion by Staker and by Rood to approve agenda/consent agenda items. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Communication/Open Forum.**

None

**Public Hearing/Non-Consent Agenda**

Spring Program Updates

Director Russell reported that youth sports programs went well. 1st/2nd grade machine pitch was new this year. Parents appeared to like the change. The girl's 3rd/4th grade softball did not like the no coach pitch rule that was added this year. It will be discussed at the coordinators meeting in the spring. Russell gathered the commission feedback on starting a girls USSSA or ASA softball team in West Branch. Commission felt it was worthwhile to ask parents. Russell will have a meeting to discuss this further with parents. Summer programs have good attendance. Rec on the Go was added this year. Staff provides programs at homes and daycares. We WBPR is having 5 smaller camps this year instead of 1 or 2 larger camps. This is going well, and it is well received. WBPR is assisting Abbey Christoffell with adult sand volleyball as needed.

Fall Program Discussion

Intern Brad Arp is working on rules for an adult softball league. More information will be coming soon.

Director Russell noted some concerns with participation in flag football. Many participants will be playing in Iowa City this year. She suggested replacing it with another program such as Lacrosse. Commission thought it was worthwhile to offer Flag Football this year. WBPR will also offer volleyball for 3rd/4th and 5th/6th grade. We will not plan to host a tournament this year. We are hoping for gym availability.

Park Updates and Improvements

Irrigation heads were moved on Tuesday July 6th. Baseline extensions will be worked on this month.

Added picnic tables and umbrellas at Cubby.

Next year we will need to hire earlier in the season. Hoping to hire HS staff to work the concession with 1 supervisor.

Upcoming Commission Meetings

The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be Thursday August 12, 2021.

Adjourn

Motion by Pierce and second by Ellyson to adjourn the meeting. All approved with voice vote.