

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

City of West Branch Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
6:30p.m. Thursday August 12, 2021
Zoom Meeting

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

Approve agenda/consent agenda/Move to action.

Approve agenda and minutes from the July 7, 2021, Park and Recreation Commission Meeting.

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

Communication/Open Forum.

None

Public Hearing/Non-Consent Agenda

Park Updates

Eagle Scout Project-Jeremy Budreau spoke with the Commission about some potential projects at the Wapsi and Beranek Park. Budreau and Russell had discussed several potential projects and he decided he would like to put pursue adding horseshoe pits and bag boards. Commissioner Klein inquired about the potential cost of the project and more details. Budreau will get cost estimates and potential locations to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Budreau will fundraise for the project.

Russell reported Cubby Park field extensions-Field 3 is complete and looks great. Field 1 and 2 were put on hold until after HHTD.

Vandalism is a concern at Beranek. This is not a new problem. Staff has discussed locking bathrooms and only opening for reservations, increased patrols, and adding security cameras (we have no internet).

Russell mentioned last year the Commission had discussed a skating rink at Wapsi Park and inquired if the Commission is still interested in the project. More discussions will occur later.

Summer Program Wrap Up

Additional camps worked well. Next year, we will need to do something different with staffing next year to make it a better experience. Possibly decrease numbers to ten so we only need one driver instead of 2.

Next summer we will continue Rec on the Go and discontinue camp in a bag

Fall and Winter Programs

Registration is open for flag football and volleyball. I expect small numbers. If there are not enough participants or coaches, we will cancel the program and have refunds. Tot time is starting September 8th from 9-10:30. It is scheduled for Town Hall but may be moved to a shelter due to COVID concerns. 2nd Wednesday of the month we will have a short program from Cedar County Conservation at 10am. Would like to continue with Rec on the Go in the winter months but will need to see what happens with COVID. It may be just a drop and run craft or activity. Commissioner Klein mentioned concerns with COVID. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Upcoming Commission Meetings

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

Adjourn

Motion by Staker and second by Miller to adjourn the meeting. All approved with voice vote.