

City of West Branch Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

6:30p.m. Thursday, August 11, 2022

Commissioner Staker opened the meeting at 6:40pm. Roll as called with Commission Members Kristin Rood, James Ellyson, Shane Staker, and Brian Pierce (on the phone). Commissioners Angie Miller and Kim Pallischeck-Hanna were absent. Parks & Recreation Director Melissa Russell was present.

Approve agenda/consent agenda/Move to action.

Approve agenda for the March 10, 2022, 2022, Park and Recreation Commission Meeting. Motion Rood, second by Ellyson to approve March 10, 2022, agenda. Motion passed by voice vote.

Approve minutes from the March 10, 2022, Park, and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Motion by Rood and second by Staker to approve minutes from March 10, 2022, Commission meeting. Motion passed by voice vote.

Communication/Open Forum.

None

Staff Updates

Spring/Summer wrap up

Russell reported Summer Programs went well. Russell would like to add a theater camp in Summer 2022. Various ways were discussed regarding how best to cut costs for rental fees and costs to participants. Commissioners felt the camp would be well received. Swim lessons were well attended. Next year the intention is to move them back to the first 2 weeks of summer. This year they were moved to the end of June because of a scheduling conflict. There were fewer tournaments than anticipated due to weather and low entries into the tournament. Summer ball programs participation was higher than anticipated. Russell predicts 2023 will bring fewer players due to some new club options opening in West Branch.

Fall Programs

Registration is open for flag football. Coaches are still needed for the Preschool-2nd grade teams. There are not enough participants to offer a 3rd/4th grade division. Russell thinks WBPR should not offer that program any longer. Volleyball registration is going well. We are hosting 2 Sundays for 5th/6th volleyball.

Registration has opened for youth basketball teams. Currently there is enough for a 3rd grade team. We plan to run a tournament in the fall.

Preschool Programs this fall will be a music class, tot time, tumbling, and a joint baby lap sit program with the West Branch Public Library.

Additional fall programs: Zumba, Learn to Ski Program on Wednesdays in January and an indoor walking program. Lions Club will also be doing additional adult programming. They will borrow WBPR portable pickleball nets and equipment.

Comprehensive Park Plan

Park plan needs to be updated incorporating items from the Community Input Program. Russell suggested we do a park tour and evaluate current facilities and think of additional amenities and improvements.

Upcoming Commission Meetings

The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be Thursday September 8, 2022. We will do a park tour to start the comprehensive park planning process.

Adjourn

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