

**August 26th, 2020**

**Clinton Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes**

6:00 PM

Clinton Parks and Recreation Building

560 High St.

Call to Order: 6:03 PM

Attendance:

Director Rosa Kairat, Recreation Coordinator David Quill, Facilities Director Russell Karlstad, Secretary John Baird, Commissioners Ed Verrier, Amanda Egnetti, and Mike Garofoli.

Administrative:

Review and Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes - John motions, Mike seconds, all in favor.

Parks & Recreation:

COVID 19 Summer Program End Financials - Rosa presented financials from the month of August.

Lankton Plaque Wording - Working on installing the approved bench and tree on September 14th. John motions to accept wording as presented, Amanda seconds, all in favor.

- A. Lankton Donation Update - Lankton Family plans to come to the plaque presentation on the week of the 14th.

#### Future Park Projects

- A. Beautify Clinton/Volunteer Program with Facilities/Parks & Rec - Russ is putting a volunteer group together to help clean up and improve parks and would like the support of the Parks and Recreation Department. Rosa suggests that any gardens planters be pollinator gardens. Mike asks if the sports fields will be worked on, Russ says that Central Park, Carlisle Park, Turini's Corner, and other parks will be prioritized before sports fields. Mike motions to accept the volunteer program, John seconds, all in favor.
- B. Central Park Winter Wonderland Alternative (Passive Recreation) - Planning on decorating Central Park more than usual in order to lift the spirits of the community, since there cannot be as many in-person events due to COVID 19 regulations. Still have equipment left over from previous years. Tree lighting money would come out of Facilities Budget. John motions to improve Central Parks holiday lighting, Amanda seconds, all in favor.

Holiday Pops Decision - Advertisements and posters would normally be put up this month, however the band is unable to practice due to COVID 19. Rosa recommends that we cancel this year's Holiday Pops concert due to a lack of talent, space, permits, and state regulations. Mike motions to postpone the concert to next year and that we explore the opportunity to create a broadcast event that brings the community holiday spirit, John seconds, all in favor.

#### Future Programs during COVID 19 Crisis

- A. Decision-Year-Round Daycare - Parks and Recreation was approached by Dr. Steve Meyer asking to run a year-round daycare program in the parks and rec building. The school would provide transportation. The building could hold 22 children per month. Rosa is unsure if the department could run these events due to a lack of time, staffing, and resources. Amanda recommends looking into a program around the time of the school's winter vacation. Amanda motions to deny the request, John seconds, all in favor.
- B. On your own programs/passive recreation ideas - Department has been working on events. Outdoor basketball clinic, "Chopped" event, and science fair events were popular. Rosa says all of these events have 11 children involved. Mike asks about commissioners volunteering with these events, Rosa says she will look into it. Rosa was looking into Rouscher farm collaboration involving the hiking trails on the property. Many programs can be modified to include social distancing procedures in order to follow the COVID 19 regulations.

New & Old Business/Open Discussion:

Rosa mentions the “Back the Red and Blue” rally was canceled. The BLM rally was canceled, but police will still be monitoring the park. Construction on the splash pad will be beginning within the next few weeks. Philbin Memorial Park will be closed during construction. Mike asks about communication we are having with law enforcement and thinks it is important to document the communication we have with law enforcement so that we can ensure that there is safety in the parks, and that the department is protected in the case of any liability issues that may occur. Rosa asks Mike to forward this to her, and requests that we communicate with law enforcement via email so that we can have it on record. Mike suggests that we discuss having protocols established for events that we know are happening in the park that we mandate documentation on communication between Parks and Rec and Clinton Police Department. No motion is made.

Rosa gives materials to board members regarding the three candidates for the open parks and recreation commissioner seat.

Mike asks if there is a method for identification as a board member, such as a lanyard, to prove that the commissioner is on the parks and rec board.

Mike motions to adjourn at 7:29 PM, Amanda seconds, all in favor.