

Village of Kinderhook
Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting - May 10, 2021
VIA ZOOM

Present: Lynn Clark, Alicia Cowan, Dave Dellehunt, Shannon Eigenbrodt, Amy Michael (excused at 7:54 pm), Valerie Spensieri - Chair, Amber van Moessner

Other: Dorene Weir - Village Trustee Liaison, Claudia March

Absent: -

Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm.

Minutes: Motion made to approve the meeting minutes of April 12, 2021.
Moved: V. Spensieri; Second: A. Michael. Motion carried.

Correspondence: An email was received at the Village Hall from a Village Resident regarding the playground re: suggest surface change, removal of merry-go-round and seesaws, and would welcome a splash pad.

New Business: **Vacant Seat** - Due to the recent resignation of one Recreation Commission Member, D. Weir offered to issue a bulletin seeking a new member for the Commission and to post in the Village Post Office. V. Spensieri to contact the Village Clerk and/or Deputy Clerk regarding an email blast for this opening. For those Village residents interested in becoming a member of the Recreation Commission, a letter or email of interest should be sent to the Village Clerk. Depending on the interest in this opening, an interview process may be needed in order to put forward one name to the Village Board for their approval of the appointment.

Old Business: **Summer Camp Program/Summer Camp Guidelines**

- **Hiring: Director - Assistant Director - Counselors**
To-date, no applications for this year's Summer Camp positions for Director, Assistant Director, and Counselors have been received. V. Spensieri has contacted the High School, various individuals who have expressed an interest in year's past, friends, prior employees, and it appears there is limited interest in the Director and Assistant Director positions at this time. A few of the Counselor positions have shown interest. The application due date for the Director is May 24th and the Assistant Director and Counselors applications are due by June 7th with

interviews scheduled for June 14th. It was noted that there are a number of stores in and around the area with “Help Wanted” signs, lack of applicants. The Commission hopes to fill all the necessary positions in order to run the program. Details are now on the website, which should help in the process.

- Forms
 - A list of questions that were used for previous applicant interviews were included in the supporting documents for tonight’s meeting.
 - V. Spensieri reviewed the summer camp application and noted no changes were needed.
 - Discussion was had regarding COVID-19 procedures for the Summer Camp Program. As changes to procedures continue to evolve, it was decided to wait till the beginning of June to contact the County Department of Health for their updates and guidance information for summer camps.
 - L. Clark to email the Commission a document from Jessica Nabozny/ County Department of Health in regard to summer programs.
 - D. Dellehunt updated the existing Waiver and Release Form by adding COVID-19 language to the form.
 - A form may still be needed for daily entry of the campers, recording temperature etc. Waiting on the County Department of Health for their updates, Commission to check the DOH prior to the June 14th meeting.
 - The Village Attorney and Village Board will need to review the protocol and procedures that will be established for use during the Summer Camp Program for liability purposes once complete.

- Summer Camp Guidelines

D. Weir to email the Village Board members and Village Attorney the Summer Camp Guidelines along with the updated Waiver and Release Form for their review and approval. There may also be some established COVID-19 protocols/procedures that the Village has in place and the Rec Commission can follow.

Playground

A. van Moessner reported that she, S. Eigenbrodt, and D. Weir have now met with three companies, two of which they met with last week. Of the three companies, two were equipment companies and one was a playground architect/designer company that also does equipment and who sent a full proposal. It was discussed that surfacing would need to be addressed initially in order to move forward with purchasing and installing equipment.

- **Surfacing:** existing pebble surface would need to be brought up to code

- **Surface Types:** **poured rubber** - pro: longevity, con: expensive/\$25 sq ft (approximately \$100,000 for existing space), life of 20 - 25 years.
chopped rubber - could placed around equipment to offset the cost of the poured rubber, yearly replenishing needed
mulch - pro: reasonable cost, con: thickness/depth needed, yearly replenishing needed

Combinations of above surfaces can be considered for reduced costs and can also be visually pleasing with different surface textures. The Village DPW could assist in maintaining the surfaces that need yearly replenishing, but, that also comes with a cost in material and labor. The DPW will be measuring the area to determine the existing square footage and available square footage to work with for expansion possibilities.

- **Grants:** D. Weir will reach out to Renee Shur regarding grants available for inclusive/accessible playgrounds/equipment. If the playground could be a premier accessible destination for the County, there may be more opportunities for grants, if that is the position and direction intended. Working through Associations and Foundations is another opportunity for potential focus groups to assist in grant funding. Municipalities within a 45 minute drive are being checked to see how many of their playgrounds have all inclusive equipment.

A three-year approach as discussed with the playground architect could be:

- Year 1 - Surfacing
- Year 2 - Equipment
- Year 3 - Equipment

L. Clark questioned the amount of space available to expand, future equipment plan layout, how much surface material would be needed initially, with relation to and consideration of this future expansion.

A splash pad was also discussed, the possibility of installation near the existing plumbing area. Water cost, recycled water, value of its worth with a short warm weather season are some of the items to be addressed should this option be of interest.

There are a number of questions, safety considerations, code issues, funding sources, expansion plans, etc., which will all have to be discussed. Tonight's meeting is to bring forward preliminary information obtained as a result of the recent initial meetings with each of the three companies.

At this point, grants will need to be researched and/or fundraising developed through, perhaps, a created "friends group", i.e. "Friends of Rothermel Park".

These two options combined with the budget dollars currently in escrow for playground use will assist in the start-up cost needed to move the playground forward.

Community Night

A. van Moessner uploaded the vendor information form to Google Docs for all Rec Commission members to review for sign-up. A number of possible themes were discussed, “Come Together”, “Hawaiian” theme, “Beach” theme, and “Sport Team” theme. Keep it simple, might not need a theme was another thought. Prizes, raffles, games, rock climbing wall, DJ, photo booth, henna, food truck, Stewarts, etc. Times to consider 5:00-8:00 pm or 6:00-9:00 pm, with starting time at 5:00 pm it would enable people to eat at the event rather than eat at home prior to the event. Multiple food trucks were discussed, however, with the number of participants one food truck, possibly two at most will be needed. It was suggested the food truck(s) offer “kid friendly” food.

Follow-Up:

- Val: Photo Booth, Henna, Stewarts, Talk with Nicole re: Horses, budget \$
- Lynn: Rock Wall, Facebook Post Request for Face Painter
- Dave: Games
- Amy: DJ
- Amber: Food Truck, Mario’s (cotton candy, popcorn)

Please use Google Docs to update Amber’s form with the status of your follow-up.

Set-up, clean-up, and station monitors by Commission members will be needed for shared responsibility.

Training

Harassment & Discrimination Training - Webinar info provided to Commission to register. Commission members who have completed this course in their workplace can send their certificate of completion to the Village Clerk. For those unable to register for that day, J. Bujanow to find out other options on how to complete the training and will forward info via email.

The next meeting of the Recreation Commission is scheduled for Monday, June 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm, via Zoom.

Motion made to adjourn at 8:19 pm.

Moved: V. Spensieri; Second: D. Dellehunt. Motion carried.

Jacqueline Bujanow, Secretary
Recreation Commission