

Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes Mar. 7, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm at Town Office with the following in attendance:

Bonnie Sparks, Bud Means, Yvette Thomas, Misty Gleason, Velma Thomas, Keith Hamel, and guests, Julie Lehenbauer, and Bill Procko.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A motion was made and approved of Feb. 1, 2024 Parks and Rec Committee meeting minutes.
2. Committee members were introduced to our guests Julie Lehenbauer and Bill Procko who introduced themselves and their interest in the committee.
3. Review of Mission and Charge- Velma Thomas has requested a review of our mission and charge due to concerns about different committees being involved in the same goals we are establishing. There was discussion around this topic and confirmation that the Comprehensive Planning Committee, Hancock County Planning Commission, Harbor Committee, Scenic Byway Committee and D.O.T., Taunton Bay Education Center and Recreation Center all may need to collaborate with our committee. Bringing information from these agencies to our meetings so there is **total transparency** was emphasized so that everyone is on the same page. All agreed that this collaboration is critical to the success of our initiatives as well as supporting the other organizations' initiatives.
4. Easter Egg Hunt- The Sullivan Sorrento Recreation Committee has asked for permission to reserve the playground for an Easter Egg hunt on March 29, 2024. They are looking for volunteers to hide eggs and for a review of cleanliness of the park to be conducted. The reservation was approved!
5. Village of Sullivan Vision- There will be an April 18, 2024 meeting at the Sullivan/Sorrento Rec Center at 5:30 pm to meet with D.O.T, Hancock County Planning Commission, and Scenic Byway Committee. The meeting will be regarding use of a Village Grant through D.O.T. to establish projects to build a stronger Village of Sullivan image at the Scenic Byway entrance. Ideas that have been considered so far include possibilities of a bike station next to the skate park, a sidewalk from Rec Center to Gordan's Wharf, (a 30 ft easement is available through D.O.T. to do so), a possible bridge for access to the park, a pedestrian crossing across Taunton Road, handicap accessibility, and Rec Center facelift. The focus of use of these funds will be on safety of residents and accessibility to village assets. A list of suggested participants to attend was collected and Bonnie Sparks will reach out to them to invite their committee members.
6. Keith Hamel Resignation- Keith Hamel has offered his resignation from the Parks and Recreation Committee to the Selectmen at their most recent meeting. A motion was made and passed to accept, with regret, Keith Hamel's resignation. Appreciation was expressed for his contribution and the picnic tables and benches he has built and will continue to add to our Sullivan Parks.
7. Raffle Coordinator-Yvette Thomas has volunteered to coordinate collection of raffle items! Vendors will be encouraged to provide a raffle item if willing. All donations should go to Yvette. Thank you Yvette!

OLD BUSINESS

1. Aquatic Camp Update: In collaboration with Taunton Bay Education Center, CCAR, who will provide instruction, and our Parks and Rec Committee, two summer camp sessions will be offered, for 12 students/session, between 6-12 years old, to be provided on the following dates:

AQUATIC CAMP SESSIONS

July 23,24,25 and August 6,7,8 (both Tues, Wed, Thursday 9-12)

Cost: \$50.00 Sullivan Resident Discounted fee and \$75.00 non-Sullivan Residents

Information will be distributed to 120 students through their schools in Sullivan, offering them priority to enroll.

2. Age Friendly Sullivan has been recognized as the Exemplary Age Friendly organization nationwide! Candy Eaton shared that there was a financial award for this recognition and is planning PICNICS IN THE PARK WITH MUSIC from 12-1 on the following dates:

Every Wednesday from July 10 – August 14. They are looking for food truck vendors!

3. SULLIVAN DAZE UPDATE

Kids Activities: Velma Thomas expressed some concern about progress with activities and what activities will be met with approval. She plans to meet with Deana Workman, the Sullivan Daze Chairperson Tuesday, March 12 at 5:00 to work on plans. It was previously determined that the town plans to purchase inflatables and have a small charge for use at future events to reimburse the purchase costs.

Music Committee: Bud Means reviewed the music venues which will include Midnight Rose to play from 11-3 and Whiskey Bent from 5-9. During the two hours break we hope to plan a talent show for kids.

Food Committee: Placement of food vendors was agreed that they should be along Park Lane. They include the Fire Department Grill and Flanders Bay BBQ under a shared tent, side by side and Waffle Lady, who has agreed to come next, and a hopeful sweet treats vendor to be added. Craft vendors now include Face Painting, Kids Crafts, Ashville Church crafters, Chelsea Burgess Jewelry, Cindy Villanueva, Karin Shea Arkin, Taunton Bay Soap Co and Mainely Jams. By Gordan's Wharf (where boat rides will be offered and Tracy's Lobster will be present), Nautical vendors include Thomas Hamel Creations and Velma Thomas Paintings WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING VENDORS! Contact Misty Gleason 706-799-4126 or Yvette Thomas at the Town Office. \$25/vendor fee. Application required.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

