

West Seneca Youth and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
1300 Union Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224
April 17, 2024

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

In attendance: Tammy Sugrue
Michael Smolen
Matt Bauer
Lauren Masset
Meichle Latham

II. Approval of Minutes from March 20, 2024

Meeting Minutes were not able to be approved as a Quorum was not met.

III. Introduction of New Commission Member

IV. Continued Business

A. Playgrounds Initiative – Phase II

1. Sunshine Park Community Build

- Planned for April 27, 2024 8 A.M. – 1 P.M.
- Roughly a dozen people have signed up to help
- Holes will be drilled, equipment laid out and organized, posts set, and concrete will be poured the week of April 22, 2024

2. Fisher Court Park

- Demolition and sitework has started
- Drainage and stone base are set to be finished next week, weather dependent
- Community Build is planned for May 18, 2024
- Flyers and notices will be pushed out in the area
- Looking for suggestions to better reach the residents in the Fisher Court Park area

B. Playgrounds Initiative Phase III

1. Fireman's, Dorrance, and Harlem

- No design ideas for the next few builds as stated by Highway Superintendent Adams

C. Commission Led Events

1. Trivia Night

- Looking for an alternative place to hold event as the gym availability did not work with Ms. Sugrue's schedule
- Large conference room is a possibility as not a lot of space is needed

2. Scavenger Hunt

- Looking to use Burchfield this year

- Possible to use same location as last year and do a different type of scavenger hunt
- Open to public comments on different location ideas or opinions on using Burchfield
- Concern with using Burchfield are possible parking issues if the patio construction is not done in time

3. Field Days

- Mr. Smolen stated he got in touch with Stephanie Wright from the West Seneca Central School District regarding Field Days
- Ms. Wright would like to be in contact with the person in charge of the event from the Recreation Commission
- It was questioned if Ms. Masset has a facility use request account as not everyone on the commission can access the website
- It would be beneficial to have an account the whole commission can use - will reach out to AIS to remedy this situation
- It is suggested that a few committee members get together to investigate and try to arrange Field Days
- Trying to find a respective venue which may or may not be held at a West Seneca Central School District facility or property
- At this time it is unknown how big of an area is needed
- Would like to pair it with community days, but at this point it is difficult to do
- Not pairing it with community days opens up more location options
- A park location would make things much easier

4. Walk in the Park

- Ms. Clayson has needed to step down
- A meeting with Joe Kirchmeyer is set for April 24, 2024 to talk about ways to collaborate with the Chamber of Commerce
- Mr. Kirchmeyer is willing to sponsor the first Walk in the Park
- Looking at other parks and service organizations to take the lead to sponsor a Walk in the Park and theme for those days
- Still in motion but no plan is set in place
- Who is the contact for the Youth Volunteer Program – Ms. Masset will help determine who that is
- As part of the survey, people were requesting 5K's or walks – this is a way to bring people out, make them aware of some of the parks and the walking paths

D. Pool

- The recommended \$0 resident fee and \$5 non-resident fees were brought before the Town Board and are again being referred to the Recreation Commission
- Four of the Town Board members would like the \$5 non-resident fee increased to \$10
- Another Town Board member would like to see the \$0 fee increased to \$2 or \$3
- Confusion as it seems as though the Town Board members are going to push back and return the recommendations until the Board gets what it wants – recommended to speak with Councilmember Breidenstein

- Season passes would be a good idea
- Having a non-cash option would be a great idea – waiting to hear back from the Finance Director about an idea they have come up with
- Another round of appointments should be made at an upcoming Board meeting as applications are flowing in for both summer recreation and aquatics
- Working on bringing back swim lessons

Public Comment (3 min/person)

Courtney Fallon of Treehaven Road made the following comments and questions:

- See attached hand out regarding pool entry fees
- Questioned the issue with the \$0 and \$5 fees – the issue is having the needed amount of change on hand and only being able to have so much petty cash at a time
- Electronic payment needs to be accepted

Commission member made the following comments and questions:

- Is there a target date to have a decision made regarding the pool fees – would like it done soon so promotional materials can be completed and information can be made available for the townwide newsletter

Mitch Stauch of Flohr Avenue made the following comments and questions:

- Finds West Seneca largely inaccessible by bike
- Will any of the new playgrounds have bike racks – this is a great idea

Leah of Flohr Avenue made the following comments and questions:

- Concerned with the dog messes left in the park and not picked up – it is believed that most if not all the parks have waste bags for this purpose and would like residents to be considerate of others that use these properties
- A friendly reminder for people to pick up after their dogs and throw their trash away would be helpful – suggests that the Town Board and Police help spread the word

V. New Business

A. Recreation Director's Report

A Kick-Off to Summer event is being planned for June 28, 2024 12 P.M. – 3 P.M.

- Events will include a Glen Colton concert, Touch-a-Truck, color run as well as an inflatable slide and bounce house
- There will also be a half-hour quiet hour that will help to include kids with special needs
- Having something to do as a community is something the Residents want

B. CPL Update

- Transportation was something that is being looked into as part of the big comprehensive plan as a result of the survey
- Bike racks are something that are going to be a recommendation
- There has not been any other follow-up meeting since the survey was put out and no other information has been relayed at this time
- The results of the survey are to be available at the end of April and should know what they are in May if everything is still on track

VI. Commission Member Comments

None

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 P.M.