



Gates Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting November 10, 2022



Those in attendance:

Commissioners: Rhoda Ride Eileen Andrews Steve Murphy John Unson
 Director: Dan Hoock
 Town Liaison: Andrew Loughlin
 Not in attendance: Brom Bianchi & Greg Westbrook

The meeting was called to order at 1:30PM by Rhoda Ride.

The minutes of the October 11 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Eileen Andrews and seconded by John Unson that the October minutes be accepted as written. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

Financial Report:

The financial report was reviewed by the Commission. Highlights of that discussion are as follows:

A discussion concerning the monies that were budgeted for Star Camp (2022) were brought up. This program did not take place this past summer, so the funds were not spent. The discussion included the costs of this program in general. A question was raised by Rhoda Ride pertaining to the rental costs of the GCSD's Performing Arts Center? Dan Hoock explained that several inquiries had been made related to this question, but as of this date, no information had been received back. Rhoda will follow up on this question and report back at a later date. A brief discussion continued related to this program. Following this discussion, a motion was made by Steve Murphy and seconded by John Unson that the financial report be accepted. The vote was unanimous to accept this report.

Correspondence:

No correspondence was shared.

Program Reports:

The Commission reviewed the program reports. The following questions/concerns were discussed:

- * Rhoda Ride inquired about the Fall Lunch trip program, and asked about the staffing and success of the program? Dan Hoock said the places that were chosen seemed to appeal to the majority of the participants, and the number of staff that supervised was based on the number of attendees.
- * Rhoda Ride inquired about the status of the pickle ball courts at Westgate Park, and what future plans might be for that area? Dan Hoock shared the condition of the courts had deteriorated, so playing on these courts would be a challenge. Dan shared the tennis courts at Lions Park could be re-striped to accommodate both tennis and pickle ball. A discussion took place related to what adjustments would be necessary to have this happen. Dan mentioned also that people who are interested in playing pickle ball could utilize the courts that are available at the HS in addition to what the town parks might have to offer. A brief discussion followed on these ideas.
- * Rhoda Ride shared information about the knitting and crocheting group that meet regularly at the department. This group of dedicated women (who absorb all the costs of project materials themselves,) donate their finished projects to the GCSD for distribution for those in need. Rhoda suggested a note of acknowledgement of their good works should be sent and all agreed that should be done. Rhoda also mentioned this group was considering working in conjunction with a similar craft group from Chili Rec. A liaison contact person from the school district has volunteered to pick up any finished projects on a monthly basis from this group. This will be helpful and appreciated.

Old Business:

Family Halloween Party in the Park:

Andrew Loughlin shared how well he thought this event had gone. It was well attended, the flow of traffic was planned out so no long lines were formed at the community stations, and the variety of activities offered were fun and inventive. A brief discussion followed pertaining to this event. Rhoda Ride inquired about the duplication of other town related events that seemed similar to this one, and that possibly if communication increased within these various town groups, maybe only one or two of these events could be held next year. All thought this was a good idea, and an effort will be made to connect with these various agencies before next fall to discuss this option. Dan Hoock mentioned that possibly a "Fall Festival" could be considered over just a "Halloween" related event. This could be a consideration too.

Miscellaneous Concerns:

Rhoda Ride asked Andrew Loughlin if it would be possible for him, as the liaison from the town, to notify the Commission of any illness or funeral information of members of the town's staff and their families, so the Commission could acknowledge these events. Andrew said he would take care of this.

Rhoda Ride asked Dan about the status of the subscription of the state organization magazine that used to be received. Dan Hoock explained that the original check sent to renew this subscription had never been cashed (possibly lost in the mail?) but now a new one had been issued and the subscription should start up again very soon.

Steve Murphy inquired about a timeline for any upgrades at Memorial Park? Rhoda Ride asked about finances related to this too? Dan said he has not been made aware of any specific timeline, or budgeted monies dedicated for this project, from the Town related to this question.

Dan Hoock mentioned the Genesee Valley Recreations and Park Conference is scheduled for November 18 at the Bill Gray's Ice Complex. Valerie Young was nominated and will be receiving the Distinguished Citizen award for 2022 at this event. All are welcomed to participate in the conference, or just come to the luncheon. Please let Dan know if you are interested in attending this event.

Dolomite Park:

Dan Hoock shared an updated map of the area that this park encompasses. An extensive discussion took place pertaining to the possibilities that could occur with this property. It could include walking trails (some of which are already in existence) along with areas that could be designated for sitting, bird watching, etc. Dan asked for input on how the Commission might want to see this park utilized? Everyone felt it should be a passive park without sport fields, development, etc. Questions were raised and discussed pertaining to road access, parking areas, development of town facilities, etc. The question was raised pertaining to a timeline related to this park's development, and Dan indicated that this specific information has not be shared with him at this point. More information will be shared when it's made available.

Brochure Update:

Dan Hoock shared a sample copy of the upcoming brochure due to be mailed out on December 1. The Commission had an opportunity to review this document. Dan mentioned the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt will be held inside at TSE as the Commission had requested. He mentioned they would try some new ideas for activities and entertainment for this event too. He also mentioned that the new program scheduled as, "Kids Fest" would be mentioned (save the date.) This event is still a work in progress as to the format, and what activities that will be offered. The following suggestions were made:

- * Rhoda Ride asked that on page #24, move the "closed" notice up to the top of the page where the hours were listed.
- * Steve Murphy asked the place where the family campout be listed specifically.
- * Rhoda suggested that possibly first names only of children shown in the brochure pictures could be named.
- * Dan Hoock suggested that possibly a survey for the community could be included on the back page of the brochure.
- * Rhoda asked that on page #27 list specific age groupings for the activities mentioned.
- * Steve Murphy inquired about the paper it will be printed on. Dan said it will be a glossy cover paper/newsprint for the rest.
- * Dan mentioned the "Kids Night Out" program has been focusing on younger child activities, but more effort is being made to focus on the ages 8 to 14.

Good of the Order:

Andrew Loughlin: Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving holiday and Veteran's Day too.

Eileen Andrews: Shared some updates on her family and wished everyone a good holiday season.

Steve Murphy: Wished everyone a good holiday season.

Rhoda Ride: Thanked everyone for coming to this meeting and also wished everyone a happy holiday season.

John Unson: Shared some updates on his family and wished everyone a good holiday season.

Valerie Young: Wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Dan Hoock: Mentioned the department had hired Leilani McGrath as the PT helper with the T/Th. lunch program. Also, the Thanksgiving Gobble Wobble will be doing a collection of food for the GCSD food cupboard.

Additional Business Actions:

Eileen Andrews made a motion to cancel the December Commission Meeting. This motion was seconded by Rhoda Ride. The vote was unanimous to cancel the December Commission meeting.

Steve Murphy made a motion to cancel in-person Commission meetings for the months of January, February and March, and instead hold these meetings via email (as was done in the past.) This motion was seconded by John Unson. A brief discussion followed on how communication would be done for these meetings (Dan will email an agenda out along with other information, request input needed back, etc. and Valerie Young will compile the responses back in a minutes format.) The vote was unanimous to accept the January/February/March meetings via email in lieu of meeting in-person.

A motion was made by Eileen Andrews and seconded by Steve Murphy to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous and the meeting was closed at 3:04PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10 and will be communicated via email. Mid-month update reports will remain the same.

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Young - Secretary