



# Gates Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting September 9, 2020



**Those in attendance:**

Commissioners: Rhoda Ride                      Brom Bianchi                      Steve Murphy                      Greg Westbrook  
                          Eileen Andrews                      Rob Keister                      John Unson

Director: Dan Hoock

Town Board Liaison: Chris DiPonzio (absent due to Town Board Mtg.)

The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:33 PM by Rhoda Ride. This meeting was held at the Memorial Park shelter.

The minutes from the July meeting were reviewed. No changes were noted, A motion was made by Greg Westbrook and seconded by Steve Murphy, to accept the July meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

**Financial Report:**

The financial report was reviewed. No questions were raised. A motion was made by Eileen Andrews and seconded by Rob Keister to accept the financial report as presented. The vote was unanimous to accept the financial report.

**Correspondence:**

There was not correspondence to share.

**Evaluation of Past Programs:**

Dan Hoock reported that overall the programs ran went well. Highlights of this report included the following:

- \* The camp boxes went over well. There were two sets of boxes distributed that covered the summer camp experience. Rob Keister asked how the boxes were delivered, and Dan shared that Stacie Paris had delivered them using the department bus. John Unson inquired about the cost of the boxes. Dan shared the second set of boxes were discounted in cost because they were able to utilize supplies already on hand, so overall costs were less.
- \* Dan shared the Community Camp-out went well and everyone seemed to have a good time.
- \* The recent disk-golf tournament was very successful
- \* The recent rock painting class was very successful and now the rocks were being distributed at Westgate Park. The rocks were painted with positive words related to kindness. The rocks have (and will be) placed along the walkways in the park. Hopefully people walking on these paths will enjoy the positive "kindness" message(s).
- \* Rhoda Ride inquired about the "Saturday Van Hunt" program. Dan described this program as a fun, scavenger hunt throughout the town. It will be a 5-week program run in October. He'll update the Commission on this program at a later date.
- \* Dan mentioned the status of the "Social Club." They have been meeting outside, and this has been worked out well. Dan shared there are approximately 20-25 members participating, and they plan to meet through September at Memorial Park on Fridays. The participants have special needs, and some come in from group homes, but overall it's a very active group.

**Programs in Progress:**

No report was given.

**Old Business:**

Rob Keister inquired about the status of the GAP program. Dan Hoock shared the GAP program will be held with some modifications due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The program at the Armstrong School will be held in the gym. The Disney School program will actually be held at the Rec. Center. Also, on Wednesdays, when the schools are closed for all students. the program will be held exclusively at the Rec. Hall. Currently, there are eight children registered for the Wednesday program.

Dan Hoock shared information about the current brochure. The brochure is posted on the website, and there are limited copies available at the Department. This was a self-published brochure, and there was a savings of approximately \$8000 by not mailing them out. Discussion followed on how best to let the community know about programming. One suggestion was the mailing of a postcard to encourage people to look on line for information, or to drop by and pick up a copy of the brochure.

Dan Hoock shared his concern about finding a significant amount of mold in the carpeting/floor at the Rec. Hall. He explained how he has followed up with reporting this situation and currently, an air quality control test is scheduled to be done on 9.10.20. Depending on the results of this test will deem what the next steps will be taken to address this concern. An extensive discussion took place where many concerns were raised about the health ramifications of this situation. As a result of this situation, the GAP program may have to be moved to one of the parks until it is resolved. Dan shared the humidity is quite high in this area (approximately 70%) when it should be less than 50%.) Dan will let the Commission know what the test results show, and also how the Town is choosing to address this problem.

Dan Hoock shared the annual Halloween Party will not be held at the Rec. Center due to COVID-19 restrictions. It will be held at Memorial Park. Contact will be made with community groups to see if they would like to participate. Discussion followed about parking, what activities will be offered, etc. Dan also shared that he expected fewer people will participate in this year's program due to COVID-10 restrictions.

Dan Hoock shared that Scouting groups have been utilizing the park shelters to meet. This includes both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. They will use them through the end of 2020.

Steve Murphy asked about how the sanitizing fogger is working out? Dan shared it has been very helpful and easy to use. He also shared its fairly economical to run as the solution uses a concentrate that is diluted with water.

**New Business:**

Rhoda Ride asked for input related to where the Commission should hold the rest of their scheduled meetings for 2020. Several options were shared. The majority agreed to the following schedule:

October 13 meeting will be held at the Westgate Park.

November 10 meeting will be held at the Town Hall Annex with social distancing in mind.

December 8 meeting will be cancelled unless there is pertinent business to discuss.

The decision as to where meetings will be held in 2021 will be based on the COVID-19 restrictions in place at that time. The option to hold a virtual meeting (email, Zoom, etc.) will be entertained as an option. All agreed it was better to postpone making this decision till a later date. Also, the suggestion to send the agenda/packet information electronically was made.

**Good of the Order:**

Steve Murphy: Hoped everyone continued to stay healthy.

John Unson: Asked about the signs around town for the activity at the Spencerport Fireman's field. A brief discussion followed concerning what activities might be included as part of this event.

Rob Keister: Nothing at this time.

Eileen Andrews: Hoped everyone continued to stay healthy.

Brom Bianchi: Shared his concern and disgust of the conditions of the bathrooms at Memorial Park. These facilities are in very poor shape, are not being maintained well, and are filthy. Many opinions were shared as to why these bathrooms are not being maintained, and who's responsibility it is to do this task. Brom will be contacting Cosmo Guinta directly about this concern. The suggestion to contact directly the Monroe County Health Dept. was made also.

Valerie Young: Thanked everyone for their continuing support and caring related to her grandson's recent diagnosis of cancer.

Greg Westbrook: Wished everyone a "Happy Fall!"

Dan Hoock: Nothing at this time.

Rhoda Ride: Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

A motion was made by Eileen Andrews and seconded by Rob Keister that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30 PM. The meeting is scheduled to meet at Westgate Park.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Valerie Young - Secretary