

**Town of Provincetown
Recreation Commission Meeting
REMOTE PARTICIPATION MEETING
Minutes of Wednesday, January 12th,2022**

Members Present, Robert Enos, Kristin Hatch, Lucy Mckernan and Michael Miller

Members Absent: Brandon Quesnell , Cathy Nagorski, and David Oliver,

Also in attendance: Brandon Motta, Recreation Director; Caroline Thompson; Assistant Recreation Director; Ali Waldo Bootcamp Instructor, Stefan from Outermost Yoga and Lesley M. from PAAM.

Call to order: Robert calls meeting to order at 5:31 pm

Public comment: Members of the public will be allowed to speak in the order they have called in. All public comments will be limited to 3 minutes, and this is the only section that the public will be allowed to comment on.

Stefan from Outermost yoga would like to share that in regards to the agenda item: Boot Camp Follow Up. He is not in favor of the adjusted rates, and believes they are not feasible for those who are trying to do a service for the community and would like them to be reconsidered. Will speak more about it when it comes up later on in the meeting.

Board Member statements: Board members will be taken by alphabetical order by last name followed by the chair being last:

Robert Enos II- Happy New Year everybody.. I thought Recreation did a great job over the Holidays and I wanted to say thank you as well.

Kristin Hatch- Nice to see everybody. I wish I was seeing you in person. But we got done by Covid again. So I just want to say that I'm glad that the days are getting lighter.

Lucy McKernan-I just want to say as a community member participating in the holiday events that Brandon and Caroline put together were fantastic. Both my kids loved every minute of the holiday club that they were able to go to and the Santa event was fantastic as usual, and I'm curious to hear about any feedback or interest from the abutters in regards to Motta Field.

Michael Miller- No Comment

David Oliver- Not Present

Brandon Quesnell- Not Present

Cathy Nagorski- Not Present

3) New Business - Votes May Be Taken

- A) Facility Use Request PAAM Gala 2022- Lesley M.. from PAAM is here to present the application and facility use request for Motta Field. She shares that they did this event at Motta Field back in 2019 and have not held it since due to the pandemic. She shares that the only differences they

will make in setting up is using a series of smaller tents. It will take place September 29th thru October 2nd (Thursday-Sunday). She remains hopeful that the event will be able to take place this year.

Robert opens it up for questions to the commission.

Kristin confirms the dates of the event and then asks if there was anything she had done in the past that did not work out that she would be adjusting this year and possible complaints she may have gotten in the past.

Lesley shares that it has gone very well in the past, no complaints to her knowledge and the only thing that was a bit tricky was the vendors dropping stuff off.

Mike has no comment other than if it is the same as in past years and the same rate he is ready to approve.

Kristin then asks if Lesley has submitted a layout, Lesley says she has not yet but will send one to Brandon.

Kristin motions to approve the PAAM Gala 2022 Facility Use Request Form

Mike seconds

4-0-0

- B)** Facility use request: Wedding Request for 387 Commercial St. - Neither Brandon or Caroline have been able to get in touch with the applicant.

Robert suggests until we hear from them, we should table this until they reach out.

Mike makes a motion to table the Facility Use Form Request for 387 Commercial St. Wedding Event until we receive communication from them.

Kristin seconds

4-0-0

- C) Recreation Commission Town Report- Cathy requested this be on the agenda. Brandon Motta shares that every year the Recreation Department writes an annual report that basically summarizes what happened during that year for the department. It typically includes information about programming, events, etc. Other commissions will write a report for the book and since Cathy had mentioned this he was bringing it before the commission to see if anyone was interested in creating an excerpt for the Annual Town Report from the Recreation Commission.

Brandon shares that last year, Cathy just wrote a paragraph about the Recreation Commission and we included it in the Recreation Report. Board members agreed and thought that would be a good idea to continue.

Robert asks when it needs to be in by, and Brandon Motta said the end of the month.

Brandon Motta requests to move up an agenda item: Bootcamp Follow Up, Kristin motions that we take out of order the Bootcamp follow up.

Lucy seconds
4-0-0

Moved up from Old Business: Boot Camp follow up: fee Consideration -Votes may be taken

Brandon Motta shares that at the last meeting, you all asked me to run a comparison on what the boot camp program paid in 2021 and what they're projected to pay next year with the rate increase or a rate change to a flat rate of \$75.00 per hour. As you can see it is quite a substantial amount of money to be raised in one single year. I wasn't under the impression that it was that much. I believe our discussions were \$75.00 was a fair amount, but apparently it is certainly not. Brandon would like the Recreation commission to reconsider these fees.

Kristin says she is not in favor of making decisions on something along the lines of fees and then considering them, if we did our due-diligence. Believes she may have missed the meeting where these were put into place, but if we did not have enough information, we should not have implemented the fee change.

Mike shares that for the people on the line, we need to put fee structures in place that work and are fair to everyone. Although that seems to be a challenge that we consistently run up against, he is geared towards agreeing with Kristin and not changing them. For folks like Ali who would want to have a conversation about this and create an equitable system that we can put into place and not have to make exceptions for I would certainly be up for a discussion but not changing it now is my two cents.

Kristin mentions that she has had a previous conversation with David Gardner about setting fee schedules. It is not about how much money you can profit but more the cost of what it takes to have the program and event.

Robert asks Ali what her thoughts are.

Ali is unsure where to go from here. She believes that the \$75 is not fair and that the town had a better deal with the percentage rate. When she has busy weekends, she gives back more than \$75 an hour, but on the weekends in the shoulder season where there are not that many participants, she does not believe the \$75 is feasible, especially since she does not require any additional costs such as porta-potty and trash removal.

Robert shares that the new rating the commission created certainly wasn't an arbitrary number that we put together, if my memory serves me right. We put this number together based on what our costs were, and also it was a comparative analysis of other towns and what they were doing. Sympathizes with Ali about losing business and money during the shoulder season. However, on the surface the numbers look like a huge jump but he can also look at the document and say that the previous 20% was not enough. Robert is sticking towards sticking with not changing them.

Ali shares her difficulty with the commission about the fees. She states that she will have to make some important business decisions and that she is in support of the Recreation commissions decisions and I and I've never been up against you. I just really wanted to express you know that discrepancy, and why that's a little bit concerning for me.

Stefan P. from Outermost yoga shares his thoughts. He is in agreement with Ali that they are just two individuals offering a recreation opportunity to the town. We do not receive grants or support from the town and the \$75 fee is not a one size fits all policy.

Stefan and Robert discuss the use of the facilities and what the difference is between having a class and others just coming to use the facility.

Robert shares that the class is charging people on Town property.

Brandon Motta shares again that these two classes are services to the community and that is what the Recreation is aiming to provide. He tells the board that if these classes are saying the rates are too high then we made a mistake and should really reconsider. Suggests that maybe this is not a decision we need to make as of now and should revisit.

Kristin asks why the commission changed the rates if we are going to change them. She firmly believes that if we did the math to charge them what it costs us then why should we change the rates. If the commission did not do it based on what it costs the department to run the program then we need to figure out what it is going to cost us.

Mike asks Stefan about the details of his class and what he charges etc.

Stefan suggests that the percentage charged in the past is fair and probably the max he could do is 30%.

Robert apologies to Ali and Stefan as it was not the commission's intention to make it difficult for class instructors to afford. It was more to create a recurring fee schedule to make things easier for the commission that way they would not need to revisit every applicant and determine different fees for all the programs. The recreation commission wants to create a structure that is hopefully feasible for everybody.

Mike motions to move the discussion and continuation of the recurring fee schedule to the next meeting.

Kristin seconds

4-0-0

4) Sub Committee Reports: Votes May be Taken

A) Motta Field Subcommittee report: Update on representatives from other boards, and abutters process .

Brandon Motta shares that with the 300 abutter letters that went out for Motta Field, only three responded with interest about being involved in the Motta Field Subcommittee. The three who reached out were :

Andrew Sessa-30 Alden St Unit 5
David Badash- 26 Alden Street Unit 7
Tracy Kachtick-Anders-29 Standish St

Brandon throws it out to the commission for more feedback. All three are willing to attend a meeting if needed to discuss what their interests are.

The commission discusses who they have on the committee thus far. There is a representative from Seashore Pointe and the School Committee. The commission all agree they would like to have all three abutters on the sub-committee.

Kristin motions to accept all three abutters to the Motta Field Subcommittee.
Lucy seconds
4-0-0

B) 387 Commercial Street Working Group Update

Brandon mentions that we're working on our findings with the site before we started the process. The community planning process. How many people reached our limitations and how that guided the site design. The price schedule also rings in at 1.8 for construction and 250K for engineering.

Kristin asks if we are anticipating any CPA money for next year's cycle.

Brandon M. says not at the moment, we are applying for two state reimbursement grants.

5) Old Business:

A) East End Basketball court: adding pickleball court lines to back court-

Brandon M. reminds the board that we have a major demand for pickleball courts in town and would like the commission's opinion on possibly adding a court down at the East end rear basketball court.

Kristin thinks we should think about the impact it would have on the neighbors. Mentions that we would be adding courts to Motta Field so is not really a fan of adding one to the east end.

Robert wonders how the sound would be down there with a court. Would want to look into that.

Lucy mentions that the walls are concrete and higher up so it may act as a sound barrier. She also mentions that there is the issue of no parking as something to consider.

Kristin is still not enthusiastic about adding courts and what the cost would be. Would like to hear Brandon's thoughts on it.

Brandon mentions that there is an obvious demand for it, he just is concerned about getting into a situation where we have not reached out to abutters and put ourselves into a similar situation as the west

end. There will be no easy way to mitigate the noise so unless we want to spend 10K to put sound barriers up but think that we need to do more to keep up with the demand for pickleball.

Robert asks Brandon what the time frame would be for the courts at Motta Field.

Brandon M. says that even if we are approved for funding from the PCA, we do not receive the funds until July 1st. So construction would start in September, maybe mid-October.

Mike says that will be a big problem. He believes that we will have a lot of unhappy neighbors and pickleball players if the lines are not done by May. Ask when the town meeting is?

Brandon M. shares whenever they set the date, sometime in April. Mike continues to stress that we really should have it done by May one way or another so we do not have angry neighbors and players.

Brandon then reminds Mike that the Motta Field courts currently have two stripe pickleball courts. He also says he cannot change the towns protocols and when money can be expended so he is unsure what the work around is but if anyone can find a solution, he is all ears.

Kristin reminds the board that you do not know if the CPA Grant will be awarded. It's a dream to begin with. Kristin then asks if we have any money in the budget to kickstart the process and get reimbursed by the CPA funds. She also mentions that we do not need to accommodate the pickleball players every need.

The board goes back to discussing the East End Court and decides to go about drafting up a letter to send to the abutters. Robert will write something short and sweet to send out and then send to Brandon.

6) Directors Report:

A) Provincetown Mask and Vaccination Update- Starting to change or change the way we do things here in the building. Unfortunately, with the new town policy with the mask and vaccination policy. We are requiring everyone to use mass indoors and require vaccination cards. Everyone who wishes to participate in our programs needs to show proof of vaccination. We are doing this with all programs to be consistent.

B) COVID-19 and Program Report

The department is dealing with a lot of Covid related issues and we feel like it's safe for everybody to have a break in after school programs and basketball. We put a pause in basketball until January 21st. We don't feel it's appropriate that other towns or traveling into promise sound and we don't feel comfortable, sending our teams out of town, especially with a spike here going on.

C) CPC Grant application update

Brandon Motta informs the board that the status of the Motta Field Tennis Courts is now in the hands of the CPC. They will review on February 9th. We have 40 support letters from the community and hopefully this will be received well. The CPC board did have a couple questions about the maintenance of the park so that will also be discussed.

7) Assistant Director Report:

A) Winter Break Club Update

For the first time in three years, the Recreation Department was able to hold an in-person winter vacation program for Provincetown School students. During the week of December 20th and December 27th, we offered a half day program Monday thru Thursday for grades pre-k and up! It was well attended and children really enjoyed coming and hanging with their friends. Masks were required.

8) **Other:** Other matters that may legally come before the board not known at the time of posting - Votes May be Taken

Approval of December 1, 2021 Minutes

Kristin motions as written

Mike seconds

4-0-0

9. Tentative Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, February 2nd at 5:30pm

Meeting adjourned

Robert motions

Kristin Seconds

6:49 pm