

**Town of Wilmington
Recreation Commission
Minutes of February 4, 2016 Meeting**

Members Present: Charlie Biondo, Sheila Burke, Mike Burns, Laurie Robarge and Deborah Cipriani, Director

Member Absent: Mark Kennedy

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

The January 7, 2016 meeting minutes were read and unanimously accepted on a motion by Charlie Biondo and seconded by Sheila Burke.

Director Cipriani's Report:

All three sessions for the Kinder Basketball program running January 9 – 30 have filled.

Numbers for the new Stem Fun class were initially under-enrolled but fortunately additional children signed up for the class in the nick of time. We had a gentleman who offered to pay for one additional student just to make the class run. He had his child enrolled in the program and had heard from others how wonderful it was and wanted to be sure it was cancelled.

The new Barre Fitness class began the end of January in the IronClad Martial Arts Studio. To better accommodate participants busy schedules, a Wednesday morning class and a Thursday evening class were offered.

Tickets for Beauty & the Beast appearing at the Opera House were very well received. Participants loved the great orchestra seats and having the bus transportation.

Celtics tickets did not sell great this year despite the fact the team is doing well.

New Business:

Debbie Cipriani will be meeting with the Finance Committee to discuss the Recreation FY2017 Budget on February 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilmington Memorial Library.

The Cecil Group will be reviewing the results of a Space Needs Survey that was completed by all departments. The group will be discussing current space accommodations and storage and the individual needs that are not being met.

The February edition of Recreation Matters is in the production stage and should be released by the end of the month.

The installation of a Dog Park in Wilmington is one of the capital projects the Recreation Department is undertaking. A lengthy discussion was had on whether to have one large park or two separate areas. The Commission was still unanimously in favor of having

two separate areas, one for large and another for small dogs. The proposed drawing provided by engineering was showing the area all as one. The recommendation to have a fence added to separate the two areas, along with an emergency gate in the middle of the fence, was brought back to the Town Manager and Engineering. There will also be a double ingress/egress gate on each side of the park.

The commission will need to establish rules and etiquette for the Dog Park. Each commissioner will bring a list of their proposed rules and regulations to the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 3. The commission will also need to determine if and what type of equipment should be installed.

The day after the dog park was announced a resident called looking to donate two bag dispensers. A local realtor also approached Debbie willing to submit paperwork for a grant that could help pay for some of the supplies needed for the park.

Discussions:

Conflict of Interest packets were presented to the Commissioners for review and their signature. Signed paperwork was submitted to the Town Clerk's office.

There is only one opening left for the Iceland trip running October 7 – 12, 2016.

The next Yentile Farm meeting is scheduled for February 17 at 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Laurie Robarge at 6:19 p.m. Motion was seconded by Charlie Biondo.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Laurie Robarge
Commissioner