

**Town of Chester  
Recreation Commission (RC) Meeting  
Monday, September 26, 2022  
Municipal Complex  
Approved Minutes**

**I. Preliminaries**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Chairperson Dircks called the meeting to order for the Town of Chester Recreation Commission at 7:07 PM.

**1.2 Roll Call**

**Members present:**

Kathryn Dircks, Chairperson  
David Webster, Vice Chairperson  
Mark Desiderio  
Marie Davies

**Staff present:**

Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director

**II. Approval of Minutes**

***The Recreation Commission reviewed the minutes from the June 13, 2022 meeting. Ms. Davies moved to accept the minutes as written. Ms. Dircks seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion passed 4-0-0.***

**III. Reports**

**3.1 Recreation Financial Report**

Director Reishus reported that the Recreation budget for 2023-24 is due on October 3rd. The revolving account ledger balance is \$66,211.30. The bank balance at the end of August was \$105,000, as the summer program quarterly transfer had not yet been done.

**3.2 Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee (SHFAC)**

Mr. Desiderio reported the Fall Fest went well. \$500 was raised that will be applied to the cost of the ramp. This includes \$121 that was raised by the old-time photographs, which were very popular. A used aluminum ramp was purchased and will be installed. There are funds available to pay for widening the bathroom doors and the external doors.

The Winter Festival has been tentatively scheduled for February 18th. Director Reishus will contact the Boy Scouts to see if they're interested in managing a bonfire. She will also contact the other groups who participated last year.

### ***3.3 Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Commission (WPC&RC)***

Director Reishus reported there is a group interested in coordinating the Pounder. The Commission discussed whether the Pounder equipment will still be stored in the barn. She will contact the group and ask them to contact the WPC&RC to discuss this issue.

The Commission decided not to do the scavenger hunt this year as less families have been out on the trails and discussed alternative activities.

Mr. Webster reported the floating ropes/buoys are on the beach and need to be cleaned. The Commission discussed the forest encroaching on the ballfields and the need for it to be cut back, and what actions are permitted on the Conservation easement.

The Commission discussed the need to replenish the beach with sand, as the grass is taking over, which harbors ticks. This needs to be included in the Wason Pond budget.

Mr. Webster recommended moving the trash can closer to the Porta Potties to avoid people depositing dirty diapers in the forest. Another trash can might need to be added. There are issues with trash on the "dog beach" as well.

## **IV. Old Business**

### ***4.1 Recreation Programming***

Director Reishus reported Boot Camp is 100% in person and going well. Senior Fitness is also going strong. She discussed offering Boot Camp for Busche Academy high school and other students. The Summer Program went well, with approximately 55 kids and 17 staff. Soccer is underway, with over 200 kids and 35 volunteers.

### ***4.2 Recreation Events***

The Commission thanked Jackie Brown, Chuck Myette, and Karolyn O'Cull for their help with the vintage photos at the Spring Hill Farm Fall Festival. Recreation offered a National Recreation and Park Association campaign that uses an app to identify pollinators, Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz.

### ***4.3 CIP (Project Request and Evaluation Form)***

Director Reishus reported the impact fees have been updated by the Planning Board. She noted there are omissions and will discuss this with Town Planner Hadik. She presented last year's CIP table. The Commission discussed the items on it and if any should be removed. They also discussed items that could be added, included metal picnic tables, tables and chairs for the MPR, baseball fencing and backstops, bleachers in the MPR (or refinishing the existing ones), skateboard park, Town baseball field drainage, benches and bleachers for the Town fields, and a fitness trail. They discussed whether local Boy Scouts would be interested in building some of these items.

The Commission discussed the possibility of selling signs to display on the baseball field signs to raise funds to pay for the fences. The Commission decided on the following new items to be added this year: Town Fields Fencing Replacement and Benches/Bleachers, and Tables and Chairs for indoor usage.

## **V. New Business**

### ***5.1 Upcoming Programming***

Director Reishus reported no one is attending the open gym, which occurs every Monday evening, but it normally is busier in the winter.

The Wason Pond Walking Club has resumed on Mondays.

The first league meeting for basketball was last week. Registration will be open the first of October. She hopes to keep the price the same as last year.

### ***5.2 Upcoming Events***

### ***5.3 Any other new business***

## **VI. Adjournment**

The next meeting will tentatively be held on December 12, 2022.

***Ms. Davies moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Dircks seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Beth Haggeli*  
*Recording Secretary*