

**Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Marlborough Senior Center
Monday, January 9, 2023
7:00 PM**

Minutes are considered “draft minutes” until approved at the following meeting

1. Call to Order

Barbara Lazzari called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Present and seated were Louise Concodello, Kim Irizarry and Dave LeJeune.

Also present: Ray Bull, Parks and Recreation Director

2. Additions to the Agenda

No additions to the agenda

3. Acceptance of Minutes

December 12, 2022

Louise Concodello made a motion to approve the December 12, 2022 minutes as submitted. Barbara Lazzari seconded the motion.

Motion passed: 4-0-0

4. Public Comments – limit of 3 minutes per comment

Jenn Boehler commented she works for AHM Youth and Family Services as the Prevention Coordinator and the Coordinator for the Coalition for a Healthy and Empowered Community (CHEC) and Kerry Barella is the Chair of CHEC. J. Boehler commented they have been working on putting consistent signage in parks to remind adults and youth that you cannot smoke or vape in the Parks. She displayed their “Just Breathe” banner. She commented that the CHEC Coalition has a Drug Free Communities grant and signs will be purchased through the grant. Part of the action plan for the grant requires an environmental change such as adding signage. The signs will remind youth and adults that smoking/vaping of all types is not permitted in town parks. They would like the same signs in all RHAM towns to have a universal approach. Hebron has already implemented the signage with banners and lawn signs. Marlborough can choose the type of signs that work best in their parks. J. Boehler added that a survey was taken recently by RHAM youth that indicate that alcohol and smoking/vaping usage is up, while the perception of risk is down. Information about the survey was given to the commission.

Barbara Lazzari noted the current Park Rules and Regulations do state that there is no smoking in the Parks. The commission discussed the various types of “Just Breathe” signs and decided on metal signs on fences or poles at each field and one at the playscape.

Barbara Lazzari made a motion to have AHM provide signs that Parks and Recreation can install at the five ball fields and playscape.

Louise Concodello seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 4-0-0

5. New Business

5.1 2023 – 2024 Budget

The proposed 2023 – 2024 budget was reviewed.

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Barbara Lazzari made a motion to approve going forward with the 2023-2024 budget as presented by the Parks and Recreation Director.

Kim Irizarry seconded the motion.

Motion Passed: 4-0-0

6. Old Business

None

7. Reports – Director’s Report

Ray Bull reported the following:

- Winter programs are underway. We are offering 24 programs to the residents of Marlborough this winter. Registrations are still trickling in for programs that are beginning later in January and early February. Thus far all of our programs that we are offering are on track to run.
- Today marked the start of the 41st season of Netto soccer. As of today, we have 31 participants that will make up 4 teams. Teams will play a 10-game regular season followed by playoffs.
- The first 6th grade dance of the year was held on Friday, December 16th. Fifty-six, 6th graders came out and danced the night away to the music of DJ Dale. A good time was had by all in attendance. We will hold one more dance this year sometime in the spring.
- I will be sending out letters to last year’s seasonal employees at the end of this month to determine who is interested in returning this summer.
- Reservations for the Pavilion can now be made for 2023. We have received a couple of phone calls inquiring about renting but no reservations have been made at this time.

8. Correspondence

No correspondence

9. Public Comments-Limit of 3 minutes per comment

No public comments at this time

10. Adjournment

Dave LeJeune made a motion to adjourn at 7:44 PM and Kim Irizarry seconded. All were in favor.

Future Meetings: Parks and Recreation Commission meeting February 13, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Pearson, Board Clerk