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**RECREATION BOARD**  
**Chairman N. Diane Davis**  
Karl Antovich  
Mike Cabral  
Joseph DeMelo  
Donald Squires  
Kevin Manuel auxiliary

**Recreation Board Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 2, 2023 @4:30**  
**Quinta-Gamelin Community Center**  
**101 Asylum Rd, Bristol, RI**

**Attendance:**

Don Squires  
Diane Davis  
Karl Antonevich  
Joe DeMello  
Kevin Manuel  
Tim Shaw  
Warren Rensehausen  
Michele Martins  
Mary Ann Quinn  
Nellie Guerriero

Meeting started at 4:30 with Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction around the room

**Karl** reported on Veteran's Updates: Commented that Veteran's Memorial Park looked great. August 11, 2023 at 9am there will be a wreath ceremony at the War Garden. WIFI & Cable are now free for residents at the Veteran's Home

**Department updates given by Warren Rensehausen**

BPR named Best Indoor Recreation Center

BPR was named Recreation Department of the Year by the Parks & Recreation Association

Tim received the Walter Henry Award

Playground at beach replaced, Rockwell Park is next

**TOWN COUNCIL**  
**OCT 04 2023**  
**MEETING**

RFQ out with max to spend from Town Council. One member from Recreation, one member from Recreation Board, Harbor Master, Warren & Steve on reviewing committee. Joe DeMello will represent board. \$10,000 airmarked from Lisa Lane.

Lisa Lane budgeted 75,000. Deed restrictions will not allow any structures on property. Plan now is to clear our debris and over growth and replace with seeding. Approximate cost 15,000. Remaining budget will be transferred to use at other parks.

Cedar Crest- slide issue. Rebuild to be covered by Lisa Lane budget. Approximately 45,000.

Sowams Park working on grant funding for improvements.

Pickleball courts are complete. Lots of requests for space. Only issue is parking during funerals. Handicap parking space on Town Council agenda 8/2/23.

Walley School- all bids came in too high. Adjustment to project is to finish first floor only. Trying to avoid throwing out & starting over before expiring. Joe DeMelo suggested using local contractors. Joe also believes that we do not need another senior center we already have Benjamin Church.

#### **TIM- Summer Camp Updates**

Friday, August 4 is the last day of camp. Camp ran June 21- August 4. 430 registered campers, 20 scholarships (received an increase of sponsorships for camp attendees). 3 buses with 6 stops.

\$300 per child \$250 siblings  
190-200 lunches per day served. Lunch is free to campers.

Primarily teens and college students as staff.

Beach- only one lifeguard. Ben Harley-an eagle scout

Beach weekend staff is young adults. Recreation Board suggested adding police detail to budget. Beach attendees are primarily nonresidents.

2024 need more beach managers and lifeguards.

### **Mary Ann- Senior Service Update**

AARP shredding event was 8/2/2023. 115 people came through to shred. Other AARP events recently were Smart Drive Course, Freud Workshop, & Shredding event. Great partnership with AARP.

Mary Ann applied to be considered an Age Friendly Community Center. This will allow access to grants through AARP.

Mary Ann would also like to have a town wide elderly survey.

Annual Senior Picnic is September 6 (rain date Sept 7) at Town Beach. At the Picnic we will share our recognition as An Age Friendly Community and our relationship with AARP. Last year we had 120 seniors at the picnic. This year CP Catering is providing lunch and Doug Botelho is providing music.

Partnership with HEZ- cooking demos through grant offers the conference room for public viewing of the cooking demo. HEZ also sponsors monthly tech talks.

Mahjong every Wednesday. Now the players are hosting a teaching opportunity on Monday afternoons.

Community Grant from RWU- magnet clips for medical cards for refrigerator

### **Nellie- Program Coordinator**

Nellie's contract was renewed by HEZ

She is Community Center Coordinator

She coordinates fitness classes, pottery, crafts, wreath making, children's programs

Numbers back to 2019 numbers

Lyme Disease fundraiser raised \$1,500

Beach yoga is doing well. Over 50 participants

Safe sitter program over the winter. Hoping to use safe sitters for future "Parent Night Out" programs and to provide child care for fitness class participants.

Ed Quinn passed away and Nellie recommends that Ed is recognized.

### **Michele- Trips**

PPAC Upcoming Trips

Funny Girl- Sept 13

Mrs. Doubtfire- Oct 1

Book of Mormon- Nov 18

Moulin Rouge- Dec 28

Also this year

Big E in September

Salem in October

NY shopping trip in November

NY shopping in April

NH Shopping in December

Red Sox trip in April

Concerts on the Common- 8 weeks

Topaz is scheduled for 8/3/23 at 6:30

Joe DeMelo brought up Stage Plan. He opposed of the stage. He feels the town needs a pool. He asked if the 4<sup>th</sup> of July was planning on using the stage.

Warren said he did not know if that was the plan. Warren let the Recreation Board know that the stage would also be used for the Last Night Concert and camp activities. Also, many other uses for it.

### **Community Concerns**

Two residents attended and wanted to discuss their concerns for staff at beach.

Recent incident on July 2 the Beach Manager was assaulted by a beach goer. The man had a record of violence and was arrested. Something needs to be done. Suggested maybe increasing fees again. These are the parents of employee Trey Coroa who was assaulted by a beach attendee.

Warren suggested fee increase. He explained that beach has to remain open to non - residents because there was federal grant money used to build the beach many years ago.

### **Individual Board Member Concerns**

Diane Davis discussed the concern of the board regarding governing authority. Joe DeMelo is also very concerned. He feels that the board should be allowed voting ability and authority for budgeting. They questioned the clarity of the charter and code. This item will be put on the agenda for next month.

Diane Davis called for meeting to be adjourned. Karl 1<sup>st</sup> and Joe 2<sup>nd</sup> adjournment.

Adjourned at 6:00PM