

Recreation and Community Engagement Committee
Minutes 6/15/23 @ 7pm (1hr)

Attendance: Greg Clark, Michael Asart, Ellen Marcus, Pat Rumbaugh, Howard Kohn, Priscilla Labovitz, Mackenzie Brown, Alan Kahn

- Introductions (if new members) & who wants to be Secretary for this meeting? (Mackenzie Brown now acting as VC – congrats Mackenzie!) - done
- Approval of 5/18/23 Minutes – Aye – approved
- Recreation Center updates and notes Via Greg
 - o Send out notes on details (dance camp still open, registration for childcare is open, after the bell program, Alice Sams, scheduled to be cleaned, seniors bingo Takoma Park Library, NCOA, Conferences on aging, special events – outdoor movie went very well, attendance popcorn, T-ball, softball, counselor in training for teens, summer camp, annual cookout, summer youth employees, Library reno – no update, info to help market stem summer camp).
- There's still time to re-sign up to be on the committee if you haven't already! Application link: <https://takomapark.seamlessdocs.com/f/CommitteeApplication>
- Advertisement for new committee members
 - o Clarify goals of committee
 - o Question: Should committee be sending all Rec center updates to entire Takoma Park Council in accordance with the city website description? – answer via Cindy: “Advise city council’ generally means, not monthly meeting notes, but annual-ish brief reports to council (often in person) and/or coming to council when there is an issue on your minds that would suggest council action.”
 - o Priscilla to write a description for the committee indicating what we do
- New Hampshire Ave Library promotion updates and plans (semi-permanent agenda item) – bingo – Takoma park newsletter – Eric Bond (newsletter editor) – has great description of what the library is doing - Ask newsletter to help us promote the rec dept
- Events and more
 - o 9th Annual Play Day Saturday, June 17, 3-7pm at the VFW. Please, share the flyer and information with family, friends, neighbors and your local list serve. The BBQ, adult beverages can be purchased at the VFW, band, dance, activities will be a great way to play and relax.
- City searches for external partner to keep the Takoma Park 5K going for next year https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfReKXxCxGi6u_jlZyBU5yt7_6NXjllsm16WbouM5WLl0srIQ/viewform – reach out to council to maybe clarify
- Does the rec dept have an interest in the 5K diversity celebration – no they don't have the capacity – 5k was mainly volunteer run and primarily by the PTA
- Priscilla – reporting on questions of the New Rec Center – Will Smith taking an interest in it – asked Ira, nothing forthcoming, and no shared details, city has the details
- Via Pat: “The latest budgets cuts starting July 1, 2023, will no longer offer Public Works drivers, trucks to help with Play Day and other events. This also means as of right now there will be no Touch-a-Truck at the 15th Annual Play Day scheduled for September 23. The Council members

are discussing this issue. Please consider sending an email to all the City Council members asking them to reinstate the funding for the assistance with Play Day. I appreciate your help. Thank you” – reach out to get a price for touch a truck – reach out to council about this – it’s budgeting issue for staffing – advise the council to put it back in the budget next year.

- Additional topics if we have time (BYO topic!)
 - o Minor Master – plan to include possible new recreation center at Adventist location
- Change Ellen’s lighting for next zoom meeting – is super dark right now
- No meeting on 7/20/23. Jay for August party – Next formal meeting will happen Sept 21st
- Adjourn