

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**  
**January 22, 2019, 5:30-6:50**  
**Town Hall, Room 217**

Members in attendance: Chris Bennett, Brian Clifford, Robin Collins, Sarah Needham, Kim Evans, Terry Schmitt

Members absent: John Minze, Shawna Kitzman, Greg Shimmer

Non-Members in attendance: Helen Rubino-Turco

**1. Parks Update**

- a. Westmoor Park. Memorial Donations are being collected to honor Brigid Curtin. The funds will be used for a memorial, the details of which are TBD.
- b. Wolcott Park Renovations. Wolcott will have a ribbon cutting to publicize the new pickleball and tennis courts this spring. Next, the electric infrastructure needs to be overhauled. Other projects in the park (parking lot reconfigurations, playground moved or rebuilt, splashpad replaced, pond dredging) are ongoing.
- c. Dog Park. Owners of an identified potential parcel are still being sorted out. They would need to be approached by Town to resolve ownership. The Dog Park Coalition did preliminary outreach to neighbors, but halted further talks until ownership was settled.
- d. Youth League Sponsorship Signage in Parks. The Town Plan and Zoning Commission was presented with an ordinance to allow for signs to be hung at parks and playfields during youth league sporting seasons and received staff reports. The commission voted 9-0 against the ordinance. The issue went back to Town Council and it was withdrawn before holding a public hearing. The ordinance was revised to include additional restrictions and Town Council is in the process of reviewing it before sending it back to Planning and Zoning, which will likely hear staff reports again in March and render an opinion thereafter. After this review and voted opinion, the ordinance would go back to Town Council. Adoption would require a supermajority to pass it over a negative opinion from Planning and Zoning.
- e. VOTE on Signage Ordinance:
  - i. Terry Schmitt moved to support the ordinance as drafted. Brian Clifford seconded.
    1. In favor: Brian Clifford, Robin Collins, Sarah Needham, Kim Evans, Terry Schmitt
    2. Opposed: Chris Bennett

**2. Recreation Update**

- a. Rockledge. Single rate for residents and non-residents was proposed to Town Council in January and passed unanimously. (18-hole round of golf increased by \$4 for residents during the week and \$5 for residents on the weekends). 10-play and season memberships rose also, but still include a resident discount. This move to a single rate is in line with other towns and is anticipated to bring in an additional \$42,000 this season.
- b. Cornerstone. Performance by contracted company (Health Fitness) is under regular review. Contract is expected to be renewed starting July 1 with the management company.

- c. Outdoor Pool Programming Plan 2019. A summary of last year's programs, including the relocation of the summer swim team to the indoor facility at Cornerstone, was reviewed. After an internal review, Leisure Services staff determined that the new swim team offered a professionally run, curriculum-driven program at roughly the same per week cost, and that it continue in its new location. Outdoor pools remained open from Noon to 7:45 PM weekdays without interruption, which met the expressed needs of the majority of the community. The Town Council's Human Services subcommittee will discuss it at its next meeting in January.
- d. Pickleball Programming 2019. Pickleball clinics will start this spring after the courts are finished. Go to Leisure Services website to sign up.

**3. Other 2019 Initiatives**

- a. Ten Minute Walk Campaign – October 10 is Walk to your local park Day
- b. Other programs to support campaign
  - i. Earth Day (April 22)
  - ii. Park to Park Walk (May or June) organized by Friends of Fernridge Park
  - iii. Other special events in neighborhood parks
  - iv. P&R Advisory Board encouraged to brainstorm ideas

**4. Advisory Board vacancies**

Chris Bennett's term is expiring. He will continue to serve until his replacement has been appointed. Shawna Kitzman has offered to chair the committee.

Next meeting: **March 18, 5:30 PM in Town Hall, Room 407**. Please note the location change.