

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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Recreation Committee Meeting March 7, 2023

Recreation Committee Members Present: Toni Hokanson, Amy Harrington, Recreation Director, Chuck Bordino. Absent: Bonne Masseo, Jeff Salt.

Meeting Commenced, 6:30pm, proceeding without a quorum.

Director Bordino explained to the group the differences between commercial and residential playgrounds, citing superior strength with commercial units, longevity and use of many Children at one time. He further explained that residential units are mostly comprised of Wood and are subject to weather related breakdown as well as safety issues involving Splintered wood.

The group discussed pursuing volunteers for playground installation and a specific individual with appropriate skills to lead the project. The Bruderhoff Group was brought up by Committee Membrer Hokanson as a possibility since they have volunteered their time and efforts in the past to assist the town with various projects. Hokanson agreed to reach out to them to determine their interest in the project.

Director Bordino expressed to the group his findings on the Willy Goat Company and the specific Santa Monica Model Playground that will accommodate 53-61children, ages 5-12, is ADA Compliant and is reasonably priced at \$19,853.

Local references were checked and solid feedback was returned. The unit's comparable size and components to other playground companies' models as well as the competitive pricing aforementioned, make it a leading candidate. Bordino requested that the group take another look at various playgrounds to compare and present new findings at the next meeting. He further expressed that a purchase decision be made by the next meeting to allow for an extended period for shipment. The group concurred.

Food Trucks at Field of Dreams Park and Clearwater Park have been approved by the Town Board as related by Bordino. All Youth Sports organizations will have the option of vending on their own, permits will be required by the County Health Department, when applicable.

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Further discussion ensued from the January meeting regarding the addition of Another Recreation Committee Member. Bordino reiterated the protocol regarding Committee Member Additions, advertising being the essential part of the process. Bordino further stated that an initial interview before a committee interview was Not necessary. Committee Member Hokanson commented on a potential fifth member Joining the group. She raised the point of a fifth member creating a tie breaker with Any voting in the future. All agreed with this point of view and remained open to an Addition.

Bordino updated the group on Community Center Programming and the progress of the Recreation Aides that were hired in September of last year. He reported that the aides are doing quite well and have contributed greatly to the overall management of the Community Center.

Bordino concluded the meeting with an assessment of the hours worked collectively between the Recreation Aides and himself. He cited his hours reduced to twenty-nine weekly and The aides working six hours each on a weekly basis. He further expressed the belief that a Recreation Aide presence should be maintained in the future when a transition from Director to Director occurs, maximizing Community Center coverage and assumption of duties.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Submitted by Chuck Bordino