

**COVENTRY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 2017**

The Coventry Parks & Recreation Commission held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 1st, 2017 in Town Hall Conference Room B. Todd Messier called the meeting to order at 7:06. Jillian Miner was seated for regular member Sean Butler.

Members Present: Todd Messier, Marie Gallo-Hall, Jennifer Rodgers and Jillian Miner.

Members Absent: Sean Butler and Antonia Conti.

Others Present: Wendy Rubin, Director of Parks & Recreation and Caterina Merriam, Recreation Supervisor.

Audience of Citizens: None.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Marie Gallo-Hall moved to accept the January 11th, 2017 regular meeting minutes. Jennifer Rodgers seconded. Motion voted in the affirmative by Todd Messier, Jennifer Rodgers, Jillian Miner and Marie Gallo-Hall. Motion carried.

Correspondence: None.

Staff Report:

A written Staff Report was distributed to the Commission for their review. Ms. Rubin went on to discuss a few noteworthy items:

- Creaser Park:
 - Emails have been exchanged between DEEP & Town Staff regarding the new lease and the new survey requirements. Both parties are working together to reach an agreement.
- Budget Meeting:
 - Ms. Rubin & Ms. Merriam met with the Town Manager and Finance Director to review our budget proposal. We have been asked to present at the Town Council meeting, on March 27th, at 7:30pm.
- Caretaker House:
 - Ms. Rubin relayed the Commission's last discussion back to the Town Manager and Arts Guild representatives. It was suggested that the Commission put together a Request for Proposal (RFP), calling on any group that may be interested in using the space to come forward with their plans. Ms. Rubin recommends that the Commission appoint a two-member sub-committee to review the plans that come in and conduct interviews. Mr. Messier expressed interest in serving on the sub-committee. Ms. Rubin also noted that she will be getting some pricing on what the repairs would cost, so that that information could be relayed to the groups submitting RFPs. The group who ends up utilizing the space would pay for the repairs, in lieu of paying rent.
 - Ms. Gallo-Hall expressed concerns regarding liability, and ensuring that the needed repairs are made.
- Basketball:

- The program is running relatively smoothly; rescheduling the missed games and practices (due to weather & the loss of 1 gym) has made regular operation challenging.
- Ms. Rubin has secured new volunteers to oversee the Travel league for next year, and plans are in place to increase the participation fees to cover the league's costs. Other AAU teams are charging upwards of \$300, while we charge only \$155.
- Ms. Rubin explained that there have been a few issues with referees; one has been unreliable, another quit due to the pressure. Finding coverage has been a challenge, but we have been able to work it out. Part of the challenge is that the 3/4 league does not have official refs anymore, so we have to make up the difference with other volunteers and staffers. We are working with the reps from other towns in the league and plan to work closer with the High School teams.
- A new event, the Hot Shots Tournament is being held on 2/12, in conjunction with CRPA. The end-of-year Jamboree has been scheduled for 2/25 and will include round robin tournaments. Coventry is hosting the 5/6 division here in Town.
- Community Gardens:
 - The Committee will be getting together soon to begin planning for Spring.

Old Business:

- Elections:

Marie Gallo-Hall moved to accept the slate of officers, as determined at the January 11th regular meeting:

- **Todd Messier for Chair**
- **Sean Butler for Vice-Chair**
- **Jennifer Rodgers for Secretary**

Jennifer Rodgers seconded. Motion voted in the affirmative by Todd Messier, Jennifer Rodgers, Marie Gallo-Hall and Jillian Miner. Motion carried.

New Business: None.

Adjournment: With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caterina Merriam,
Recreation Supervisor

Please note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission at the next Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting. Please see the next Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes for approval or changes to these minutes.