

Southbridge Recreation Advisory Committee

Location: Community Center, 153 Chestnut St

Date: Thursday, 3rd May 2018

Time: 7:15 P.M.

Minutes

1. Open Meeting at 7:37 PM
2. Previous Meeting Minutes, approved and no corrections
3. Attendee Introductions: In attendance, Pedro Aponte, Darlene Renaud, Nancy Ortiz, and Steven Roenfeldt (Director)
4. Events Updates
 - a. **Bicycle Month Events:** Mr. Roenfeldt requested the group promote the upcoming events as follows... May 10th Bicycle maintenance clinic in front of the Jacob Edwards Library, May 12th Bicycle Safety Day at Joe Capillo Park, May 18th Bicycle to Work/School Try It Day. Mr. Roenfeldt asked for any volunteers for the Bicycle Safety Day to be at the various stations. The Cub Scout troop will be providing some volunteers for the event as well.
 - b. **Food Truck:** The idea is brought up about a possible food truck event that has been researched by Corey Alarie. Ms. Renaud mentioned reaching out to DJ Pho to provide music should we decide to put on this event. Mr. Alarie is not in attendance so this item is tabled for further discussion regarding details at another meeting.
 - c. **Movies on the Common:** Mr. Roenfeldt informed the group that a sponsor is interested in created a Movie Night. The dates will be in late August and beginning of September. Mr. Roenfeldt preferred September dates because of diminishing light allows the movies to start earlier. Some concern was discussed about to chilly in the evenings and new school year busyness. The night would be on Friday instead of the Sunday concert times. This is to see if Friday is a preferred night to Sunday nights for further concert/movie events. Ms. Ortiz expressed a preference to Fridays. It was suggested that we put out a poll on Facebook asking which is a preferred night.
5. Program Updates
 - a. "All In" Southbridge After-School Program: Mr. Aponte provided an update of the program. End of program event is scheduled for May 24th. All partners will be there. Malerie Germain will speak with community connections about providing food and other resources. All In partner meeting is scheduled for May 10th at 2pm. Mr. Aponte noted consistency is needed or we should decide to do the program without any partners. It was asked about the possibility of creating a

youth center, similar to the past, or combining with the YMCA to do a more expanded teen leaders program. Mr. Aponte noted that the college student volunteers are out of school, so the Our Brighter Future days are struggling with volunteers.. High School volunteers have increased for the Recreation Department days. Ms. Renaud asked if the All In program is using the playground at West St, is it closed to the public. Mr. Roenfeldt responded that although the playground is public space, the space could be closed for the times the program is using the playground, and citizen users should be asked by volunteers to head to the lower West St playground. Ms. Renaud expressed a need of more wound cleaning supplies and gloves for the first aid kit.

- b. Winter Playgroup at Community Center: Mr. Roenfeldt reported the program is now ended for the year. The final event had 45 kids in attendance. Thanks to volunteer Kaitlin Servant for her service to this program.
- c. Flag Football League: Mr. Roenfeldt reported the league begins this upcoming Sunday. Brian Figueroa is leading this program and not in attendance to report. There was a question how the referees will be paid and how they will be paid. Mr. Roenfeldt will check in on this question.
- d. Summer Program at West St: Mr. Roenfeldt said this program details and registration is available. He encouraged all members to promote the program to the community.
- e. Summer Concerts on the Common: Concerts are still be planned and will be promoted as booked. The concerts begin on June 24th
- f. Free Handball Clinic: Ms. Ortiz was asked what is the max number of participants she would like in the program. The response was 12. If the maximum number is reached we can divide the group and add other dates. The program will generally have progressive content, so if the max is not reached people can register for the program after the start. The July 17th day will be a special day to culminate the program. It was suggested to add to the flyer Nancy Ortiz's phone number to the flyer in case anyone had questions.
- g. Free Tennis Clinic: Flyers were distributed and members were encouraged to promote the program.
- h. BMX Skills program: Flyers were distributed and members were encouraged to promote the program.

6. Facilities

- a. BallFields: Mr Roenfeldt updated that some ballfield work occurred at all the baseball fields. He is encouraging all the user groups to rake and drag the baseball fields after each use. This is not really being done, but he will continue to encourage this. Storage sheds were added to Alva Gregorie baseball field and Morris St fields to store the equipment for user groups to help maintain the fields.
 - b. Other Park need suggestions: None to report
7. Open Forum to discuss Recreation issues or ideas
8. Next meeting scheduled for Thursday June 14th at 7:15 pm
9. Adjourn at 8:50 pm