

## WHITEHALL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

August 18, 2021

Parks and Recreation Garage

The meeting of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:17 PM by Chris Bolich

On a roll call, in attendance: Chris Bolich, Mike McQuate, Katie Quincel, GERAL Leka, Director Shannon Sorrell, and Shannon Werner. Absent: Mike Adkins, John Fetters, Nathaniel Stewart Guests: Councilman Wes Kantor and Bob Straits, Pam, Matt Golden

Bolich moved, seconded by Quincel, to excuse the absent members and the motion carried 5 – 0.

Bob Straits presented for field rentals and summer softball tournaments. He requested the initial set up of the pitching mounds, among other things to be set up by the parks and recreation staff (which has been in the past the responsibility of the league) and maintained throughout the tournament by his staff. Bob presented his concerns in who would run the WYBBA in the future and side noted that he may not be able take it on next year. Discussion was presented in getting more kids into all youth sports within the Whitehall Community for the 2022 year, including policies and procedures, vision, best practices (background checks, training and certifications) Commission agreed to revisit the issues in a focused meeting set for September as tbd as schedules allow.

Pam: concerns about mice in the concession. Director Shannon Sorrell will be working with maintenance to address this issue.

Quincel moved, seconded by Bolich, to approve the meeting minutes for June 16, 2021 and the motion carried 5 – 0.

The Commission reviewed the following items: Invoices, budget for June & July 2021.

Director's Report:

Summer is slowing down. We have added a full time Administrative Assistant and moved some part time staffing to year round to accommodate the year round needs of Rangers in the parks as Kelly Green and The Dog Park increasing needs and to assist in program/ event staffing.

Sorrell introduced the department's new Administrative Assistant, Katie Girts.

Whitehall Dog Park is set to Open October 13,2021 and will have an opening event with music and activities.

Kelly Green has 2 farmer's markets left, we are already seeing interest in renting of the space for next summer and are working out researching and details as to what those types of rentals will look like.

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Director Sorrell explained the operating budget for 2022 will be not be what we were expecting but we will be taking some capital improvements off of the table in order to keep operations as they are. Staff is working on increasing donations, sponsorships and some revenue base programming.

Sorrell reviewed the Fall calendar of programs and events. This included senior programs, Archery, paint and sip, pop up back to school event.

Capital project updates: Matt Golden presented the dog park will not have structures at opening due to the continued delay and back up of steel. It has been reseeded twice due to wash out but is taking well in all except one spot and drainage is being looked at to fix that area.

Lower level paving at Whitehall Community Park is scheduled for this week and was delayed due to rain. The "porta-john hut" continues to be a problem and was delayed again for installation scheduled this week due to rain. We are probably another 4 weeks out for the ground to dry enough the heavy equipment can drive on the grass.

There being no further business, Bolich moved, seconded by Quincel, and the meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

To the best of my knowledge, these minutes are true and correct.

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Chairman John Feters

Prepared by:

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Katie Girts