



# TOWN OF AMENIA

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## **Amenia Recreation Commission Meeting – February 27th, 2024**

Town Hall: 6:30pm

In Attendance:

- Commission Members: Pete McCaffrey, DJ Reilly, Nicole Ahearn, Josh Simpson
- Rec Director: Katie Sterk-Grassi
- Town Board: Paul Winters, Leo Blackman
- Participants: Jane Didona leading presentation on Wassaic Master Rec Plan, Jonathan Scarinzi, Amanda, Angel (Webutuck), 9 community members in attendance.

### **Business:**

- **Minutes approved:** January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **Master Plan & Landscape Architect Project**
  - **Parks and Recreation Master Plan Public Session:** (Jane Didona)
    - Presentation to the Recreation Committee and the General Public with the objective of getting feedback on Wassaic components of master plan.
    - Outline
      - Alignment to Amenia Town Goals
      - Review of the process and milestones
      - Focus was on Wassaic elements of the plan which Jane walked through in detail.
      - Breakdown of recommended implementation phases
      - Overview of Amenia plan elements at community member request.
- **Webutuck Student Leadership Challenge:** (Presentation by Jonathan / Amanda / Angel)
  - Community Day 2024 – May 4th
  - Committee made up of class officers
  - Funding used to support elements (e.g. zoo, bubble machine)
  - Site is behind Webutuck High School
  - Work with the PTA to run the event.
  - Also use for fund raising for each of the classes.
- **Summer Camp:**
  - Status of hiring for summer camp
  - Discussion of funding and a proposal to lower the camp cost for Amenia Residents
  - Motion to set camp price at \$80 week for Residents and \$125 week for non-residents. (Resident = Town of Amenia). Not discounts for multiple weeks or multiple children. Motion passed.

- **Recreation Director Report:**
  - **Summer Camp 2024**
    - Actively hiring Summer Camp staff. Need five counselors (16 years or older), one assistant director, one nurse (or EMT). Flyers have gone out to school, NECC, website, social media.
    - All staff needs to be hired by May 31st
    - Camp will start July 1st
    - Have interviewed with an EMT, AD, and three counselors. Waiting to hear back from other applications.
  - **Valentine's Day Craft Hour**
    - It was a great turn out this past Saturday for the craft hour.
    - 23 people came!
  - **Summer Music Series**
    - All bands are book for summer music.
    - First concert will be Monday, July 8th at 6pm on the basketball court.
    - Music line-up will go live first week of March.
    - Commission discussed going from 6 bands over 6 weeks to 8 bands but agreed to remain at 6 for this year to allow for rain dates.
  - **Upcoming Events**
    - Saturday, March 9th at 10AM – St. Patrick's Day Craft Hour
    - Saturday, March 23rd at 11AM – Easter Egg Hunt
  - **Beekman Park**
    - Want to remind residents that Beekman Park is not a dog park. Dogs are welcome on a leash. Doggie bags are available toward the entrance of the park. Please make sure we are cleaning up!
    - Access road at park is closed as it is all mud.
  - **Senior Programs**
    - Senior programs will be getting transferred to recreation. Michele is stepping away from the responsibility. Would like to thank her for everything she has done for the seniors and the support she has given the town. Waiting to receive information about senior programs from Michele to move forward.
  - **Recreation Staff**
    - One of our recreation groundskeepers has stepped down from his seasonal position. I want to thank Chucky for his years to the town. He was a great asset to the team and will be greatly missed. We are looking to fill the role and are accepting resumes/letter of interest.
  - **Recreation Misc.**
    - Had meeting with Tracy to discuss timeline and plans for concession stand. DJ and myself are meeting with her again 2/29 to discuss findings from department of health.
    - She was gathering as much info as possible and then is finalizing the timeline as requested.
    - Worked with Josh about skatepark plans and started to look for grants to apply for. Looking at T-Mobile grant.
    - Still waiting to hear if we have received grant from county for playground funds.
    - Meeting with Lions Club in March to discuss ways to work together and how we can support each other. (Nicole to join that meeting)

- Have been working on a building activity guidelines packet for programs within recreation. This would just go over alarm settings, cancelation rules, safety, contact list, etc.
  - Basketball hoop replacement is in. May need volunteers to help install soon.
- **Little League**
    - DJ has resolved with Adams fencing the remaining batting cage work. Project should be completed in next 3-4 weeks. No additional cost to Amenia Recreation.

Next regular meeting is March 12th, 2024, at 6:30pm at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted.

Peter McCaffrey, Secretary