



TOWN OF AMENIA

4988 Route 22, AMENIA, NY 12501
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Amenia Recreation Commission Meeting – June 13, 2023

Town Hall: 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

- Committee Members: Pete McCaffrey, Paul Winter, Linda Gregory, Nicole Ahearn
- Rec Director: Katie Sterk-Grassi
- Rec Supervisor:
- Town Board: Leo Blackman, Vicky Doyle
- Participants: Jane Didona Architecture (presenting), 15 community members

Business:

- **Minutes approved:** May 16th
- **Recreation Director Report:**
 - **Senior Picnic – July 29th at 12PM, Wassaic Fire House**
 - Wassaic Fire House received \$400 check for rental of the hall space.
 - \$2500 is being spent at Four Brothers for food
 - **Summer Music Series – Starts July 10th at 6pm**
 - All invoices for bands except one have been submitted to the bookkeeper for a total of \$3375. The last invoice for remaining band is \$750. All six bands will be \$4125.
 - ADA Bathroom from Superior Sanitation will be \$265 for six weeks and will be cleaned each week.
 - Stage for bands has been confirmed.
 - **Family Fun Day – July 8th 11AM-2PM at Beekman Park**
 - Free event to the public
 - Working with WLL. We have a lot of great stuff happening that day but still in the process of confirming all the parts of it
 - Looking into someone to offer face painting for two hours. There is a person who will do it for \$90 an hour.
 - **Adult Puzzle Day**
 - Will now be twice a month at the Amenia library.
 - Next one June 22nd at 1pm
 - Free Event
 - **Mexican Folklore Dance Class**
 - Only one person signed up.
 - The instructor did not want to cancel the class
 - Will see how Monday 6/12 goes and if more people come.
 - **Kids Circle**
 - Kids Circle last class was this past Wednesday.
 - Total of six kids signed up
 - Kids enjoyed their time and guardians suggested doing it again in the fall
 - **Farmers Market**
 - Farmers Markets cannot just pop up some where

- Each vendor needs their own insurance and workers comp if they have employees.
 - **Summer Camp 2023 Feedback to Commission:**
 - Summer Camp is not feasible with the number of staff. I only have two potential hires. This is not enough if one counselor calls out or is sick. I have received no other applications for counselor or camp supervisor. Therefore, recommend that Summer Camp should be canceled.
 - **Beekman Park**
 - Cannot move forward with construction bids for the concession stand until there is a design layout with proper description of what we want done
 - The slide cannot be replaced as the company that installed it is out of business.
 - Working on getting pricing from playground companies in the surrounding area to replace the whole set
 - I have been researching grants available to help offset cost of concession stand, playground, lights, etc
 - Locks have been changed and costed \$415
 - **Wassaic Park**
 - Soccer Goals and Locks have been ordered for a total of \$2690
 - Money will be moved from the Park and Rec Savings to pay for them
- **Summer Camp:**
 - **Motion:** To cancel summer camp in 2023 because of lack of staff.
 - Motion passed 4-0
 - \$29,500 to be repurposed to other recreation line items.
 - **Motion:** to repurpose \$10,500 of Summer Camp funding to fund tractor maintenance, tools and equipment for recreation maintenance staff, additional funding to address projected overrun in Amenia park budget line (0171101.01).
- **Summer Music Series:**
 - Planning proceeding with no known issues.
 - Scheduled discussion on Thursday with Town Board that Paul will lead.
 - Address need for Town Constables – clarify with town board how this is paid for.
 - Ask Town for beer/wine waiver so that people can bring their own beer / wine.
- **Master Plan & Landscape Architect Presentation and Public Feedback**
 - **Public presentation:** Jane Didona – Didona Architecture
 - Jane presented proposed master plan for Amenia Town Hall (Green)
 - Jane walked thru all elements of the design from parking, walking path, green, pavilion, basketball courts, playground, and town front.
 - Jane presented some possible design elements examples to give the community the art of the possible.
 - Feedback:
 - Vicki Doyle: Questions on the approach for maintenance of the rain gardens
 - Chris: Can't rely on volunteers for maintenance, may need to hire to maintain gardens going forward.

- Leo Blackman: Had positive comments and feedback on several of the design elements
- Michael Ryan: Any way to soften the view from the road by the basketball court to improve the entry to the town green from that property entrance.
- Gail Gamble: Inquired if walking path is a surface that is good for seniors.
- Juan Torres: What can we do to slow down traffic on Route 22.
- Josh Frankel: Feedback on not taking greenspace for parking if possible.
- 80-90% of the participants in the room expressed show of support for the master plan as presented by Jane.
- Town Board will have opportunity to vote to expand the scope of Jane Didona's contract to include the additional properties in Wassaic as part of that master plan.

Next regular meeting is July 11th, 2023, at 7pm at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted.

Peter McCaffrey, Secretary