

WHITEHALL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

January 12, 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING

The meeting of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:05 PM by Chairman John Fetters.

On a roll call, in attendance: Mayor Kim Maggard, Chris Bolich, John Fetters, GERAL Leka, Mike McQuate, Katie Quincel, Nathaniel Stewart, Mike Adkins, Director Shannon Sorrell, Councilman Joanna Heck and Katie Girts

Mayor Kim Maggard administered the Oath of Office to Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commissioners John Fetters and Mike McQuate who all answered in the affirmative.

There were no absent members.

To begin the re-organizational portion of the meeting, Director Sorrell opened the floor to nominations for chairperson. Adkins nominated John Fetters for chairperson, seconded by Quincel. There being no further nominations, nominations closed and a voice vote was taken. All members answered in the affirmative, with Fetters abstaining, and John Fetters was re-elected chairperson of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission for 2022.

Next, Sorrell opened the floor to nominations for vice-chairperson. Fetters nominated Mike Adkins, seconded by Quincel. There being no further nominations, nominations closed and a voice vote was taken. All members answered in the affirmative and Mike Adkins was re-elected vice-chairperson of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission for 2022.

There were no guests to poll for questions or comments.

Quincel moved, seconded by Bolich, to approve the meeting minutes for December 1, 2021 special meeting, December 8, 2021 Commission Meeting and the December 13, 2021 special meeting the motion carried 7 – 0.

The Commission reviewed the following items: Invoice, Trust Fund, budget, and income for December 2021. The budget currently includes the proposed pay increase for the Maintenance Staff that were unable to restructure in recent union negotiations. On Bills, due to recent covid surge Event Management School the week of January 10th for Cory Ollie has been canceled.

Director's Report: 2021 funds are still encumbered to finish several projects – including completing the office renovation in the shop and offices at 721 Country Club Rd and installation of new windows at the Senior Center

New job listing for an Active Living Coordinator and Market Manager have been opened as well as plans to utilize new platforms to recruit more candidates to apply for these positions and for seasonal staff to be hired and trained in the next couple of months.

Beginning in February, twice a month, Parks and Rec. will hold "Wellness Weekends" family programs inside the YMCA on Saturday at no cost is to include sports activities, cooking, and art.

This year's goal with Parks and Recreation will be building community alongside first responders. Kicking off May 7th 2022 alongside community police and fire we will hold a community volunteer day to plant black berry bushes, over-seed meadow, honeysuckle removal, up keep community garden etc. Whitehall police department is interested in holding a bike rodeo at different events with Parks and Recreation this spring and summer and we will be looking into donations of bikes to put together at the community volunteer day. Parks and Recreation will be setting dates with first responders to grill out hot dogs and pass out ice cream at the elementary schools during pick up times.

The Splash Pad is set to open on May 28th and is slated to be closed on Mondays for routine maintenance. The proposed times open will operate in 4 time blocks to close 20-30 minutes in between to sanitize.

Kelly Green continues to be a great outdoor space for the city and are plans for the 2022 season include Partner events such as Margarita Fest, Summer Wine Fest, Beer and BBQ Fest. Other activities in the park will continue to be the farmers Market on Tuesdays as well as 2-3 concerts on the green to include Jazz and Latin Jazz musicians. Most events are planned for June, July and August.

Music in the Park is scheduled at John Bishop Park for 5 dates this summer and tie in with park parties. Four weeks of youth sports camps is in the works to be held at the High School and intends to run as an all day camp this year including before and after activities and providing lunch. Parks and Recreation will also be supporting Food Truck Festival, the fireworks, and National Night Out

Youth Sports: Football has submitted their statements and financials. Soccer is beginning in the spring for grades 1-3 with Balley Sports Sorrell will be meeting with Bob Straits and Pam to discuss the baseball/softball leagues and succession planning. Sorrell met with Team Snap an application that can stream line youth sports registrations and management. She will be meeting with Auditor Quincel to discuss a supplemental to cover this cost. In addition to streamlining registrations and getting Whitehall Youth sports under one umbrella Director Sorrell is going over NAYS (National Alliance for Youth Sports) to discuss coach, and umpire trainings.

Leka followed up with inquiry on volunteer introduction/ meet and greet day to be added to events. Sorrell will follow up with proposed dates for event and schedule.

All events and programs will be planned in accordance with the most current Covid-related safety guidelines. Commission will be emailed the completed schedule calendar before next meeting. Meeting adjourned 7:13pm

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

Chairman John Fetters

Prepared by:

Shannon Werner