

TOWN OF NEWTON
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING MAY 20, 2020
VIA ZOOM
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on May 20, 2020 via a Zoom meeting by Chairwomen, Karen Crossley.

Roll Call: Rachel Bucci, Rufus Coward, Kelly Rossi, Danielle Zito and Chairwoman Karen Crossley

Also Present: Recreation Supervisor, Sherri Kaylani, Recreation Coordinator, and Town Manager's Assistant, Zoom meeting Coordinator, Terri Oswin

Chairwoman Crossley read the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Minutes – May 20, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Upon motion of Chairwoman Crossley, seconded by Mr. Coward and unanimously carried, the minutes for the February 19, 2020 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

The Recreation Commission has two vacancies. Mrs. Crossley mentioned Billie C. but according to Terri Oswin there were no applications submitted. Terri has posted the vacancies on the Town's website.

The Recreation Commission was updated on upcoming events.

- The following events were canceled: Newton Night Out on June 5, 2020 and Newton Day on June 13, 2020.
- The Miss Newton, Little Miss and Little Mister Newton Pageant 2020 was not canceled. It will be held as a Virtual Pageant via Zoom on Friday, June 12, 2020 at 6:00 pm.
- The Subway Series on July 8, 2020 – plans have been put on hold until we receive more information. Phone calls made to the Yankee organization have not been returned. If this is canceled it was suggested we try to schedule a fall/winter football or basketball game outing.

New Business:

We are preparing to have a Pool Season if and when the Governor allows pools to open and our pool repairs are complete. It may have to be a reduced/modified season if it does happen.

The Recreation Department has been keeping the community engaged virtually using our Facebook Page and Instagram Account. Sherri thanked those on the Commission who were actively participating in our virtual campaigns. Also, Gigi has reached out to our Prime Team Senior's President, Joyce Lincoln, and will continue to follow up with her. We would like to incorporate a way to virtually connect and engage with our Senior Citizens and residents during this time when we have to social distance and follow Executive Orders.

Ideas were shared for activities/events with social distancing in place. Some of those ideas shared were:

- Story time via Zoom or live Facebook video
- Story telling contest
- Crafting Kits to go, or crafting with what you have at home
- Create a virtual recreation experience for our residents

Open Forum:

During this time the idea of setting up a day for the town to visit one of our nearby drive thru zoos was made. Also senior care packages including craft kits, books, and chocolates was another idea mentioned or having children read to seniors or vice versa.

At 7:27 PM Kelly Rossi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rufus Coward seconded and the motion was unanimously carried.

The next meeting of the Town of Newton's Recreation Commission will be on June 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Gigi Regolizio