

Recreation Commission Board Meeting – Tuesday, 12/20/22 at 6 pm via Zoom

Present: John Allen, Jackie Camerlengo, Janell Cameron, Will Reardon, Jacob Simon, Jill Susarrey, Carolina Velasquez, Tom Younger, David Grishman-Select Board Liaison, Danielle Strauss-Recreation Director

Members all introduced themselves

No public comment

Swamptoberfest recap – Partnered with Yacht Club, games for kids, beer garden, music. All feedback has been great.

Fall programs - town wide yard sale; Classic Car Show with over 200 cars, Indigenous People Day celebrated at Farmers Market for the first time; Family Day in August (run by John and wife) supported by Recreation Department.

Dec programs – Light up Swampscott with Holiday Parade, Gingerbread Houses, Breakfast with Santa for TLC, 1st Night at SHS for NYE – crafts, face painters, 2 different acts, Selfie station balloon drop at 4pm. Event is 1-4pm, with set up at 12 noon Jackie, Jill, Janell, and Danielle will be there. Tickets sold on the website, also can sell tickets in person. All credit card-based sales, no cash accepted for anything unless paid directly to clerk's office at town hall.

Town purchased Anthony's Restaurant, but room upstairs is not accessible. Will explore options.

Suggestion: Xmas tree bonfire – concerns about how this can be handled safely. Maybe this should be something sponsored by the Fire Department. Fisherman's Beach is small and there is a historic property and house proximity is too close. Some members will review options for 2023.

Suggestion: Street Festival on Humphrey Street - close the street and really promoting and supporting local businesses, target all community members. Would need businesses to be invested, need to see what their thoughts are and ensure it would be helpful to businesses. Potential for a summer event, July 3rd was suggested, tied in with fireworks. Have restaurants in the area participate and food trucks, open to those who want to participate. Need to consider Saturday church services. Restaurants not in immediate area can participate and could potentially use Anthony's and St. John's parking lots.

Suggestion: Crawfish festival for spring event. David Grisham is looking into potential options and partners. Location TBD and needs to be accessible.

Harbor Festival – 1st or 2nd Saturday in June – TBD. Potentially partnering with yacht club. Hoping to have both Marine and Harbor festivals and join them together as one event.

Pride Day – Event on town hall lawn. Will happen either 1st or 2nd weekend of June, but not on same weekend as Harbor Festival.

New sailboats and paddleboards ordered for next summer

January will begin planning for 2023

New program = Handwriting; Middle school age program ideas needed.

Discussion of positions – Chair, Vice Chair and secretary positions open. Volunteers were: Jill-Chair; Will -Vice Chair; Carolina and Janell – Co-secretary. Will vote on these at next meeting

Next meeting dates – Tuesday, Jan 17th at 6 pm meeting at Town Hall. Meetings will be 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.