

Village of Hamburg Recreation Commission Minutes
January 8, 2021 | 7:00pm | Zoom Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Paul Peck, Marty Blind, Tricia Miller, Carly Liebenow, Garry Nelson, Annamaria Masucci, Amber Klausen

Staff Present: Josh Haeick, Recreation Supervisor
Jacie Gavin, Recreation Leader

Officials Absent: Paul Gaughan

Recreation Leader Jacie Gavin started her report with an update on the After School Program. She noted how the kids are back to school in the hybrid model which allowed the program to resume. The children have been busy with unique activities like balloon volleyball and Buffalo Bills crafts. Registration for Session Two is currently ongoing. The second session of the program will be on Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

She also noted that the Date Night Great Night Program is still on pause as it is not seen as an essential service.

Jacie also gave an update on the 2021 MLK Day Food Drive, scheduled for January 18, 2021. There will still be an event, however there will be changes in structure this year to cater to the COVID-19 health precautions. Families that share a residence will drive designated zones for pick up, there will be a contact free drive-thru drop off, and a virtual donation option. A Facebook event has been created, and the links to make virtual donations are listed there as well. Jacie urged Recreation Commission Members who are on social media to help spread the word about the event.

The Village partnered with the Hamburg Dawgs / Hamburg Lady Dawgs and the Hamburg Hawks youth sports organizations for a holiday toy drive last month. This event was a huge success. The organizations were able to support all the families from the West Side Community Services who asked for assistance as well as a handful of families in the Hamburg community. Even after supporting dozens of families there was a plethora of donations, which were divided into toys and clothing items. The toys will be kept in storage until next year's event and the clothes were taken to the Clothing Closet overseen by the Town of Hamburg.

Lastly Jacie reported that registration for the 2021 Hamburg Junior Baseball and Softball season has begun. All registration is online, and will close on Sunday, March 7, 2021. This year the Board of Directors for the league has agreed to a one time pardon for 17 year olds who missed out on their last year of house ball last summer. It was also mentioned that no family would be turned away due to inability to pay. The league knows the pandemic has been tough on a lot of families and want to make sure they provide an enriching experience to kids who have been robbed of many opportunities over that past 10 months.

Recreation Supervisor Josh Haeick began his report by stating that there has been no progress on the Legion Field Project or the Swim Center since the last meeting. The Village is ready to go to public bid for the project once the contract for the grant money through the state is approved. He said not to panic, that the money was encumbered, the pandemic has just slowed down the timeline for this part of the process. He mentioned that the Splash Pad project at Glen Meadows is in a similar situation. The project is still in the design phase as Assemblyman Sean Ryan wanted to be sure the water used for the Splash pad wasn't wasted, so the design will be re-rendered to reflect the water draining into a retention pond or a "rain garden."

Josh then updated the commission on the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget. The initial budget outline was completed and sent to Village Hall, as mentioned at the last meeting. The capital projects that were included in this years proposed budget included a new boiler system for the Youth Center, a truck to replace a 2002 Ford Ranger that is a part of the Parks fleet, and a Gator to replace the blue van used to water the pots and hanging baskets during the summer. As of right now it looks as though the money for the boiler will be saved over a couple of years into a reserve account,

however the truck and gator are in the preliminary budget. The Recreation Department has their budget meeting with the Village Board on Saturday, January 30th.

Josh also reported that Hamburg Little Cagers youth basketball is still on pause as basketball is still considered a high-risk sport, however the league still is looking to host their summer camp this upcoming day.

Lastly Josh commended Annamaria Masucci on all the hard work she put into Hamburg Holidays this past holiday season.

Annamaria, who is also the Special Projects Coordinator for the Village discussed the possibility for upcoming projects and ideas in the Village, which will increase the walk-ability/bike-ability in the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacie Gavin
Recreation Leader

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 4, 2021 @ 7:00pm