

Present: Commissioners Kristina Carr, Lisa Jerkowski, Claudia Joseph, Frank Klepeis, Kieran Liggan-Casey, Reta Sorge; Recreation Clerk Dorene Whitaker; Town Board Liaison Ashley Sweeney.

Excused: Commissioner Dave Hattenbrun.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

1.**Approval of prior meeting minutes:** L. Jerkowski moved to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Seconded by R.Sorge. All in favor.

2.**Application for Use:** A. Sweeney reported on the Town Board's review of our approved Application. The Town Board suggested that: 1)maximum capacity be increased to the Health Department's approved number of 200, but that it be made clear that this includes ALL attendees including entertainers, caterers, etc. and 2)clarify in the Application that exits are not to be blocked and ensure that all doors have appropriate signage. K. Carr moved that these changes be approved and incorporated into the Application, and that the Application be approved for public use. Seconded by R. Sorge. All in favor.

3.**Marquee:** D.Whitaker reported that staff was recently trained on use of software for the marquee, and there were several eye-catching announcements posted. However, the marquee has malfunctioned after a power outage several days ago, and the company has been contacted to repair it.

4.**Tree cutting:** D. Whitaker reported that the Town Board approved a contract with a local tree service to remove the large trees near the playground. Work is anticipated to be done within the next few weeks.

5.**Ballfield lights:** D.Whitaker reported that there is interested in renting the ball field, but the lights are not yet functional. One more pole needs to be replaced but springtime field conditions have been too wet to allow heavy equipment into the site so far.

NEW BUSINESS:

1.Bocce court: K. Carr reported that Supervisor Walsh is supportive of the installation of a bocce court, but the project can't be considered until next year due to 2024 budgetary restrictions. The Supervisor would obtain an engineering study before any plans are drawn up. K. Carr also reported that the Ulster County Italian American Foundation recently contacted her offering labor, materials and some funding toward a bocce court installation. Two representatives of the group met today with her, Frank Klepeis, Dorene Whitaker and Mattt McCluskey, Youth Director, to discuss prospective sites and agreed upon the site of the trees near the playground which are to be removed soon.

2. **Volleyball court:** K.Carr reported community interest in a volleyball field. The group discussed a site between the ball outfield fence and the Fitness Court. K. Carr moved that a net

and line markers be placed in the site, contingent upon the Buildings and grounds staff determination that the area can be graded to provide a safe playing surface. Seconded by R.Sorge. All in favor.

3.Riparian buffer: K. Carr reported that the Trees for Tribes site along the creek near the tennis courts is due for a spring clean-up. This has been scheduled as a joint project between the Recreation and Environmental Commissions for Thursday April 25, from 3-5 pm (Rain date May 2). All are welcome to attend.

4. Pavilion tables painting: K. Carr reported that the Pavilion tables, painted during Covid, are peeling and in need of re-painting. She is looking for volunteers. No date has been set yet; she will text members if and when a time with suitable weather comes up.

5.Proposed memorial bench for Willow Kiln Park: K. Carr reported that Judith Minisalli, widow of Richard Minissali, has requested that she be allowed to install a bench in his memory in Willow Kiln Park. Richard (aka “F-Stop”) was a Rosendale resident for many years and was instrumental in the transition of the Rosendale Theatre into the non-profit community fixture that it is today. Photos were provided of the proposed bench which is to be constructed by a local artist, and a site near the small bridge in the park was suggested. R. Sorge moved that the bench be approved pending permission from the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail. Seconded by L.Jerkowski. All in favor.

6.Request for fee waiver: The Rosendale Library has submitted 2 applications for use. As an organization supported by Rosendale taxpayers, Library events qualify for fee waivers. One event is Irish Music and dance in the Pavilion on Saturday, July 13 at 7 pm. K. Carr moved that this event be approved. R. Sorge Seconded. All in favor, with F.Klepeis abstaining. The second event is a Wild Mountain Bird Program, as part of the Library’s summer reading program, on Sunday August 4 from 12-2. L.Jerkowski moved to approve this program. Seconded by R.Sorge. All in favor.

7.Programming: A.Sweeney reported that Game Night last week was lots of fun. C. Joseph reported that the recent Plant and Seed Swap was very successful with high attendance and good spirits. The next event is a fund-raising lecture on Permaculture by Claudia Joseph on May 5. Further discussion of a possible music series in Willow Kiln Park was tabled until early next year as there is no funding for 2024 and many practical questions about such a program have arisen among the commissioners.

8.Rec Center water fountain: R.Sorge proposes that the adult water fountain in the Rec Center lobby, which hasn’t worked in years, be replaced by a bottle filling station. This would be more hygienic in our post-Covid world, and would help to reduce use of single-use plastic bottles. She has priced such a dispenser at \$800-900, plus plumbing fees. D.Whitaker expressed reservations about budgetary support for this. A.Sweeney reported that the Environmental Commission recently received a grant and is looking into community needs. K. Klepeis moved to ask the Environmental Commission to consider assisting us in installing a bottle filling station. Seconded by Joseph. All in favor. R.Sorge will contact the Environment Commission.

9. **Rec Center Spring upgrades:** D. Whitaker reported that she has ordered dirt for the ball field infield, and a small amount of mulch for the playground to get us through the season before construction of the new playground.

10. **Pool 2024 Update:** D. Whitaker reported that the pool does not need any major repairs this year, and that a Memorial Day weekend opening is anticipated. On April 26 lifeguard and cashier applicants will be interviewed. On April 27 sign-ups for swim lessons and season passes will be held.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. The next meeting will be May 15 at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Carr, Chair