

Minutes – Wilton Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting

January 8, 2024 – Gavin Park

Present: Ken Bishop, Kellie Milne, Andrea Glogowski, Trey Bodkin, Chad Jerome, Margo Olson, Ross MacNeil

Absent: Mark Dailey

Meeting called to order at 6:58pm

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Andrea Glogowski to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2023, meeting. Second by Trey Bodkin.

Director's report: Ross discussed how things have been going at Gavin Park. He notes: Jr. NBA is going well with playoffs happening soon and trophies handed out. Pickleball continues to have 40-50 participants and will soon be featured in a report for Saratoga Living. Over-30 basketball has 25 participants, and open gym is picking up. After school programs are at maximum capacity. In March, there is planned to be an adult yoga program. The ice rink is up and ready to go, but weather has hindered its ability to open. The Town is planning to install new facility cameras at Gavin Park. Other upcoming events include Saratoga volleyball, Battle, Latsko and Dailey Jammers.

After the overview, the Commission discussed a couple open items with Ross including potential for adding lights to the outdoor pickleball courts; Ken added that power has been upgraded to this area of the park and it could be a nice addition. The Commission desires to work with and help Ross organize a Town picnic at Gavin Park and had the idea of also having a picnic at Camp Saratoga. This would be a good way to bring awareness to each location. The Commission brought up the Tree Lighting and asked a few questions about how it was advertised. Ross advised that someone at the Town oversees social media. He also advised that the Comptroller may possibly be generating pamphlets for each Town department.

Margo Olson, in attendance and representing Wilton Wildlife Preserve and Parks gave an overview of what's been going on with her organization and that it would be a good idea to get all organizations involved with recreation together for one greater meeting. A meeting to coordinate subgroups would prove useful for everyone. The Commission asked Margo about if there were badges to earn should

a Town resident complete a certain number of hikes or trail walks. Margo advised that there is a Great 8 patch you can earn, that is up on the WWP website. PLAN also has a passport to earn. This could be an idea to add to the pamphlets that Ross mentioned earlier. Margo then gave an update on projects at Camp Saratoga. The renovation of the building (Larry Gordon Outdoor Education Center) has been going well with \$188k utilized from State grant funding, and the Town completing the work, she was unsure of timeline.

Old Business: From Agenda:

- a. Chad was unable to provide an update on the Forest Grove inquiry.
 - b. Trey advised that he contacted Charles Dake and learned that it is an email spreadsheet used to contact interested parties for the County-wide trails committee meeting. Trey to add our emails to the list.
 - c. Ross provided the update earlier that the Town oversees social media advertisements.
 - d. Kellie unable to get ahold of Sue.
- e/f. The Town Board appears to be in favor of Pickleball lights and the next step would be to engage and get support from the various Pickleball groups and basketball court players.

New Business: The Commission would like to set up a meeting with the Town Board to create a better connection and provide updates on projects etc.

Next Meeting: February 4, 2024

Adjourn: A motion was made by Trey Bodkin to adjourn at 8:00pm, second by Chad Jerome.

Respectfully submitted:

Kellie Milne