

Newport Recreation Committee Meeting

September 17, 2023

As amended 11/19/2023

Present at Meeting: Jamie Comtois, Sue Kiley, Jennifer Smith, Matt Kiley, Kelli Rhodes, Nick Whitehouse via telecon

Absent from Meeting: Sean Pilker, Carter Finegan

Members of the Public: Mike Brown, Karen Geraughty

Meeting called to order: 5:42pm

August 17th minutes approved as submitted

Comments by members of the public: Karen Geraughty, Interim City Manager, stated her thanks to and support for the good work of the recreation committee

Fundraising Update: **1)** Coin Drop Saturday, Oct 7th. Schedule 9-11 Carter & Sue, 11-1 Jaime & ____ 1-3 Jenn & ____
NEED TWO MORE VOLUNTEERS 2) Donation jars at Buzzy's, Thompson's and Jimmy Quik not producing much.

Event Planning:

Pumpkinpalooza – **1)** Pumpkin supplier unable to deliver this year. Walmart wants \$4.58 ea which committee thought was way too high a price to pay, members to look for other vendors.

2) Since carved pumpkins were vandalized night of last year's Pumpkinpalooza, Sue suggested moving the display to the city parklet next to municipal building. All agreed.

3) Sue to find EZ up for committee use at events

4) Kelli to order (10) gallons of cider from Burtt's at \$8ea. Matt to pick up.

5) Sue, Matt & Kristen to hand out pumpkins Sat. Oct 21st at Noon in Gardner Park. Each pumpkin accompanied by note informing taker to return for display on Oct 28th Setup on 28th at NOON, **ALL HANDS ON DECK**. Event starts at 4pm

Updates from Recreation Department

1) Splash Pad - \$190K in hand. \$186K USDA grant lost due to expiration. Soil remediation work to begin this fall with trained city workers. 4-6 month lead time to order \$40K splash pad selected by Mike Brown. \$90K is cost projected for new playground structures.

2) Fall Fest Sept 23rd will have Quilter Show, Newport Band, Classic Cars, Chili and Scarecrow Contest

3) Sailing Club formed in Newport

4) Hockey Rink grant work being done with new surface and boards

Other Business

1) Matt reported that Sept 13th Teen Center Roundtable was very successful with many area agencies showing up and a lot of enthusiasm for moving forward. He submitted \$183.92 in expenses of the authorized \$300. Matt made motion to spend up to \$200 for Teen Center Roundtable #2 eats, Sue 2nd Kelli suggested asking area restaurants to donate. Motioned passed 7-0

2) Lack of participation of one committee member questioned. Jaime to follow up.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 pm