

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Community Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
9/16/20

Attending: Andrea Ernst, Amy Lombardo, Sarah MacColl, Jon Mortimer, Jill Palmore and Terri Patterson

Absent: Tara Simopoulos

Meeting opened at 5:33 pm - Kathy Raftice updated the committee:

Public Comment - None

Draft Minutes from July 22, 2020 meeting accepted as submitted. (6 – Yes, 0 – No)

Correspondence – None

CECS Updates

Revisit to racial concerns/comments from summer camp. Policies will be rewritten and handle more from a bullying perspective and align discipline. Town Adhoc Civil Rights Committee members selected. Sarah shared there were 17 applicants which is a wonderful turnout.

Youth

Preschool had 23 register so did not support the 3rd classroom. Preschool up and running. We will try for 3rd classroom again next year. Hybrid and Aftercare program has begun and families continuing to register however number significantly lower than in the past. We will have the tent out back and Wi-Fi access in the parking lot through the end of October. Kelly Phinney has been working diligently on the program. Mixing outdoor activities with the needed classroom time. We have also begun our afterschool programs with most outside, only utilizing indoor when weather issues. Working with school department on limited use of schools. Our Saturday programs have been pushed back one week as we waited for the MPA to make decisions on fall sports. Susan Frost has done a phenomenal job with all the changes and things are fluid. We are planning a Halloween celebration. Looking into a craft under the tent and a Trunk or Treat from our town vehicles in the back parking lot. Families will register for a time. Waiting on CDC guidelines. Additionally a virtual hike day through MRPA. We did not complete a formal brochure but looking for guidance and assistance on how we can do better. Sarah asked if any thought to work with the Courier. Perhaps through an advertisement. We definitely need to utilize local platforms; new website, the Courier. Amy suggests maybe an insert in the Courier. Terri likes idea of utilizing an ad. Andrea reminded of use of PCPA and Principal letters.

Adults & Seniors

Jane tried a monthly program for a fee however seniors want to know what is happening each day so they can decide on whether to attend. Based on feedback she has changed to a per class registration of \$5.00 per class. Letter and calendar going out so all know what is happening. Jane also looking into coordinating a Flu Clinic/Absentee Ballot and Senior Tax

Program Assist outside under tent. Linda continuing to work with instructors on offering exercise classes. Small groups can be inside and we have those in place. Looking into what other recreation departments are offering for ZOOM and costs associated. Terri shared that cost of ZOOM much lower than in-house classes and part of the relationship building, keeping folks engaged and exercising for when we are back. Sarah suggests to open classes to other local communities from Cumberland County.

Pool & Fitness

We have been slowly adding programming to the pool and have received many inquiries around swim lessons. We will open youth swim lessons beginning Saturday, October 3 and going back to weekday afterschool swim lessons beginning October 5. Susan is also offering a diving class. Pool utilized fully from 5:30 am – 9:00 pm. Amy asked if locker rooms will be available. Kathy explained for changing purposes they will be open beginning in October. Sarah asked about the Masters swimming program. Kathy explained she is in talks with CMA.

Ft Williams Update

Master Plan work beginning. Site plan walk through 9/24. Working on communication plan. Developing stakeholder lists. Tennis Ball/Pickleball court changes have been completed. The feedback has been very positive. 2 upcoming musical events in the park. 9/22 – Equinox Concert, 9/26 – Women in Harmony and 10/3 Free Rabies Clinic. Discussion to take place regarding music in the park for the Master Plan. Terri felt how often as much an issue as who. Kathy explained the discussion will go forward and thinking more a weeknight. Jill asked about POD and volleyball courts, skating, lights etc. Seems like more of a wish list but wanted to make sure we were aware. Important as we go forward to share with all the stakeholders. We have also discussed winter use of the fort. Terri mentioned MPA and use of fields by excluded sports.

Amy asked about open gyms? Access? Kathy said a little early. We need to give things a little time to see how cohorts works etc. General discussion about communication and Jill has some information and ideas she will bring forward. Lots of transition within her neighborhood. Andrea feels communication about the swimming is important. Jane Anderson is the marketing representative and will reach out to all school groups. Amy shared concerns about travel teams versus school teams. Grateful for all Community Services has been offering. Kathy recognized her staff and the work they have been doing to make sure classes continue. Andrea asked for date of Halloween event and thought advisory committee help/attendance would be nice.

Meeting adjourned 6:33 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 18th followed by December 16th

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Raftice