

TOWN OF NEWTON  
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 20, 2021  
VIA AUDIO CONFERENCE CALL  
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:15 PM on January 20, 2021 by Recreation Commission Secretary, Sherri Kaylani.

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Mr. Abramson, Mrs. Bucci, Mrs. Duggan-Cuff, Mrs. Zito

**Also Present:** Recreation Supervisor, Sherri Kaylani

**Absent:** Mr. Coward and excused absence, Chairwomen Crossley

Recreation Commission Secretary, Sherri Kaylani read the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

**MINUTES – November 18, 2020 -**

Upon motion of Mr. Abramson, seconded by Mrs. Zito and unanimously carried, the minutes for the November 18, 2020 meeting were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS –**

Sherri informed all that there is one Recreation Commission vacancy and provided an update on the Prime Time Seniors Organization. The organization is planning a meeting for February. Mr. Abramson stated that he is still interested in joining and that he will contact Acting President, Clara Walters. Sherri stated that she will reach out to Mrs. Crossley to discuss same as she was unable to attend this meeting and had expressed joining the organization as well.

The December virtual contests were discussed and Sherri provided an update on the contest results. It was stated by Sherri that there were several entries that were disqualified as the entrants did not reside within the Town of Newton for the Ginger bread house contest and for the Ugly Holiday Sweater contest, the entry was disqualified for entry into the contest after the contest deadline. Sherri thanked the Commission for their participation as Judges of the two virtual contests.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Sherri stated that she is open to ideas for Easter activities but we must continue to take into consideration that we must follow Covid-19 guidelines and any Executive Orders that would apply. One idea presented by Sherri was to reach out to the Newton Fire Department and ask if we can have an Operation Easter Bunny event which would be similar to their Operation Santa event. Sherri stated that she does not know the logistics of this event but would do some research. Mrs. Bucci stated this was a good idea and that she can reach out to Jason of the Newton Fire Dept. to have him contact the

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Recreation department. Mrs. Bucci also stated that this may be a good opportunity for all as the NFD can use the fundraising opportunity while residents have an Easter event that can be held during these times of Covid-19. All members agreed this event could bring much needed joy to the community. Mrs. Bucci, Mr. Abramson, Mrs. Cuff and Mrs. Zito stated they would all be willing to help with the logistics of such an event. Sherri informed all that we will need to present this idea to Administration.

Sherri informed all that their advice of changing the Flags of Honor event date was presented to Mr. Russo and Mrs. Oswin. After consideration, it was determined that the event would remain held in November and the date selected for the 2021 Flags of Honor event will be November 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Abramson stated to Sherri that she should challenge this decision based on his following thoughts: The Flags of Honor event a stand-alone Holiday, if held in the warmer months; the event would have better community involvement, he also stated that the Town has stated that flags would be up a whole month and for the past two events they have not been kept up for the entire month due to weather and the Holiday Christmas tree insertion. Sherri asked which date did he feel would be better? Mr. Abramson stated later in July, Maureen suggested Fourth of July, Danielle agreed stating that people wish there was more to do in the Town around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Sherri informed all that she will re-visit the date with Administration and use the additional information they have provided.

Sherri presented that she would like to invite the Commission to provide support and activity ideas for the 2021 pool season. All were in agreement that we would discuss this as the season gets closer.

**OPEN FORUM** –

There were no open discussions. Also, there were no members from the public on the audio conference call.

Mrs. Abramson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Bucci. With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 17, 2021 at 7:00 PM Via audio call.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sherri Kaylani