

TOWN OF NEWTON
RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 2021
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:07 PM on November 10, 2021, by Recreation Chairwomen, Karen Crossley.

Roll Call:

Present: Mr. Abramson, Mrs. Bucci, Mr. Coward, Mrs. Crossley, Ms. Qarmout, Mrs. Zito

Also Present: Recreation Supervisor, Sherri Kaylani

Absent Excused: Mrs. Duggan-Cuff

Chairwoman Crossley read the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

MINUTES – October 20, 2021 –

Upon motion of Mr. Abramson, seconded by Mrs. Zito and unanimously carried, the minutes for the October 20, 2021, meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS –

The Commission discussed the 2021 Flags of Honor event and provided the following after thoughts: Karen stated that this is her favorite event of the year, additional members agreed. All members stated that they give this year's event two thumbs up and that they felt this is and continues to be a momentous event for the Town of Newton. Karen stated that she thought the sandwiches for lunch (verses the chicken boxes) were a hit as well. All agreed with her. Karen provided the idea that if our ladder truck should not be available again for the next event that we reach out to another Town and ask if they'd be willing to join us. All agreed that our Town of Newton Ladder truck had been missed at the event. The ladder truck was not present as the truck was receiving service. Rufus stated that we need to gain more support from our youth and reach out to the H.S. again next year and encourage students to participate and support Veterans with this event. Rachel added that we should incorporate a flag art contest for grammar school kids to participate. Karen suggested that we review adding a Town – wide flag contest in support of this event and Veterans Day. Alan stated that he would still like to see the Town have students read the honoree names and participate a lot more. All agreed that we need to expose this event further and gain more community involvement from the Boys and Girls Scouts, Sussex County Community College, Applebees and, schools such as Northwest Christian. They stated that they would like to also see a shuttle available to bring seniors to the event.

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NEW BUSINESS –

Sherri informed all that there are volunteer opportunities for this year's Annual Tree Lighting and if they can volunteer to please contact Kimberly. We welcomed new Recreation Commission member Lisa Qarmout. Lisa introduced herself stating that she would like to be more involved with the Town of Newton community.

We reviewed our 2021 year of events and Sherri highlighted that despite Covid-19 we were still able to host several events and had a successful year. We expressed gratitude for the teamwork shared amongst all members and their dedication to the commission and Town. Rufus stated that he has been on this commission longer than those present. All members agreed that there should be some formal recognition for his dedication and volunteer service. Alan stated there should be recognition made on the Council level. Sherri informed all that we will look into this further. We established that our 2022 meeting dates will remain the third Wednesday of each month except no meetings during the months of July, August, and December. The meetings will remain at 7:00 PM and will be held in person or audio call as needed. Sherri informed all that the 2022 winter seasons would be used for planning and preparing for the 2022 spring and beyond recreation seasons.

OPEN FORUM –

There were no members of the public present during the audio conference call.

There were no further discussions.

Mrs. Bucci made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Abramson. With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 19, 2021, at 7:00 PM via audio conference call.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Kaylani