

Recreation Commission
Wednesday, January 8, 2025
6:15pm

A meeting of the Port Jervis Recreation Department was held Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 6:15pm. The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm. The following were in attendance:

John Faggione, Director	Brandy Figueroa
Melissa Newhauser , Chairperson	Dawn Jones
Sean Addy, Vice Chair	Debbie Cunningham
Ayden Smedley, Youth Member	

Absent: Colin O'Connell, Liaison, Nashaun Campbell, Youth Member, Cory Puopolo, Stan Buczek

Public Comment:

None

Public Hearing:

None

Approval of Report and Minutes and Report from November 2024:

A motion to approve the minutes and report from November was made by Dawn and seconded by Sean. All those in favor:

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

Executive Session:

None

New Business:

Congratulations, again, to Melissa and Sean for being voted in as the new Chairperson and Vice Chair for 2025.

The Polar Plunge is scheduled for 1/11. 45 people are pre-registered.

There are 5 tickets left to see the NJ Devils game on 1/18.

Jill Mason is retiring from the Senior Rec Leader's position and moving to Texas. John invited the Commission to join the Recreation staff at a small gathering to celebrate Jill. John recommended that the Commission appoint Janessa to Senior Rec Leader to replace Jill and to appoint Stephanie DeJesus to Rec Leader to replace Janessa. A motion to accept Jill's resignation and to approve Janessa and Stephanie was made by Debbie and seconded by Brandy. All in favor:

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

John reviewed the dates for 2025 Special Events

Forward Soccer has requested the use of Riverside for Spring 2025 practices and games. The start date will be in April, and they will provide a certificate of insurance. A motion to approve the use of Riverside Park by Forward Soccer was made by Sean and seconded by Brandy. All those in favor:

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

John would like to offer another Little Chef's class in May. He will speak with the instructor and keep everyone updated.

The 2024 End of the Year Report is getting some final touches and will be sent out soon.

Old Business:

Adult basketball, at PJMS, is going well. It is well attended.

The insurance money for the West End Bathhouse damage has been received- renovations to be made this spring.

There are no DRI or Barclay Street updates. John is hoping for some movement this year on the Church St. project.

Youth Report:

None

Public Comment:

None

Next Meeting- Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 6:15 at the Youth Center

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm was made by Dawn and seconded by Sean. All those in favor:

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Absent: 2

Director of Recreation Report January 2025

Youth/Community Center

The Youth Center started out well in 2025. The total attendance for the month was 452 and our unduplicated total was 44.

New Friday hours are now 2 pm- 5:30 pm. At 5:30 pm on Fridays we will have a staff meeting. Monday-Thursday remain 2 pm- 6 pm.

The Recreation Room will be closed February 10 and February 17-21. The Recreation office will close only on February 17.

We said thank you and goodbye to our longtime Senior Youth Center Leader- Jill Mason on January 17. Jill worked for the Recreation Department for more than 26 years. We wish her and her husband John well in retirement.

We are happy to announce that Janessa Jenkins will be our new Senior Youth Center Leader- Janessa has been our Youth Center Leader since the fall of 2023. Our new Youth Center Leader is Stephanie DeJesus- Stephanie has worked various positions with the Rec. Dept. since the summer of 2023.

Winter Programs

Adult basketball is being held every Sunday morning from 9 am- 11:30 at the Middle school Gym (old ASK Gym). Participants must be 21 and older and must be Port Jervis school district residents.

Sleigh Riding Hill

Sleigh riding hill is set up at West End Beach.

Port Jervis Polar Plunge 6

On Saturday January 11, 2025, 69 brave people took the “plunge” in the Delaware River at West End Beach. This annual event is sponsored by the PJFD- Special Operations Team along with PJ Rec. The Special Operations Team will be donating a portion of the funds to help the Recreation Department’s lifeguards recertify their lifeguard certifications and to possibly certify new lifeguards.

Spring Calendar of Events:

Saturday, April 12, 2025- Spring Clean Up- Veteran’s Park- 10am- 12 pm

Saturday April 19, 2025 – Easter Candy Dash-Church St. Park- 11am

Sunday, May 4, 2025 – 31st Delaware River Run- Erie Depot and Riverside Park- 9:00am

On-Line registration is now active. People can register at:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NY/PortJervis/DelawareRiver5kRunandWalk>.

Saturday, May 31-Sunday June 1, 2025, the 2nd Jim Faggione Jr. Midnight Madness Relay will take place in Elks-Brox Park. Online registration is now active. People can register at: <https://pjmidnightmadness.com/>.

FYI

1. Summer Field Trips are being planned now- we are looking at a trip to Bethel Woods for a concert on June 27, Liberty Science Center in July and a New York Mets baseball game in August.
2. Plans are being put together for Port's first Splash Pad at Church St. Park. With help from the mayor's office, we hope to have this installed and open by July 1, 2025.
3. Congratulations to Melissa Newhauser and Sean Addy for being elected as Chairman and Vice-Chair of the Recreation Commission for 2025.

NEXT MEETING:
Wednesday February 12, 2025
6:15 pm