

**Recreation Commission**  
**Wednesday, March 13, 2024**  
**6:15pm**

A meeting of the Port Jervis Recreation Department was held Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 6:15pm. The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm. The following were in attendance:

John Faggione, Director	Melissa Newhauser
Brandy Figueroa, Chairperson	Dawn Jones
Cory Puopolo, Vice Chair	Debbie Cunningham
Colin O'Connell, Liaison	
Na'Shawn Campbell, Youth Member	
Ivan Figueroa, Youth Member	
Councilman Jason Vichiarello	

Absent: Sean Addy, Stan Buczek

**Public Comment:**

None

**Public Hearing:**

None

**Approval of Report and Minutes and Report from November 2023:**

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

Aye: 5            Nay: 0            Absent: 2

**Executive Session:**

None

**New Business:**

Welcomed everyone back and thanked everyone for their support during the last few months. John has been approved to return to work part time, remotely. He can be reached through texts, emails, or calls.

John introduced and welcomed Colin O'Connell as our new liaison and reintroduced Na'Shawn Campbell as our Youth Member. Melissa was reintroduced as our new Commission member. She replaced Noleen Tomasi.

The Easter Candy Dash will be held on 3/30 at 11am at Church St. Volunteers are needed. A reminder text or email will be sent beforehand. The Spring Clean Up is scheduled for 4/13 at Veteran's Park at 10am. Volunteers are needed.

Spring Forward Soccer will be using Riverside Park for practices and games on Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings. This program will begin in April. 10% of the registration fees is donated to the Recreation Department.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Midnight Madness Relay, in memory of Jim Faggione, will be 4/20-4/21 6pm-6am. This will be a fundraiser for the Outdoor Club and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Volunteers are needed. Registration and more information can be found at [pjmidnightmadness.com](http://pjmidnightmadness.com)

Volunteers are needed for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Delaware River Run on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9am. This race is part of the Grand Prix of Orange Runners Club. John would like to celebrate with food trucks, a DJ, and yard games. Fruit and water will still be available at no cost. Dave's Devil Dogs will give a discount to all race participants in exchange for sponsorship.

The Food Truck Festival and Fireworks Show is scheduled for 7/3 at 5pm. The fireworks have been booked. Currently, there are 19 food trucks interested in joining the vent.

The Recreation Department has been invited to attend the Fireman's Day Parade as part of the Youth organization in the area. John is going to talk to Jill about organizing a group to participate.

Fearless, a youth leadership academy, has requested to use the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for their summer academy on 7/22-7/26. They used the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in 2023 and there were no issues. A motion to approve their use of the building was made by Dawn and seconded by Cory. All those in favor:

Aye: 5            Nay: 0            Absent: 2

John has reached out to the staff to see who is interested in returning for Summer 2024. The majority is returning. We will need maintenance staff. Ads have been out. Applications have come in.

It was discussed whether it was feasible to keep Riverside Playground open. The commission discussed the idea of using the park as a Sports Camp rather than as a traditional playground. Participants would have to register for camps. Lunch will be provided. A minimal fee may be charged to show a commitment to attend.

Two lifeguards will be attending recertification classes in April and May. CPR and First Aid recertification for the other guard will be in May.

Raising the parking fees at West End Beach was discussed and will be revisited at April's meeting.

The Mets game is scheduled for 8/16. It will be fireworks and free jersey night.

#### **Old Business:**

The new fence at Farnum Park on Canal Street looks great.

The Devils Hockey game was a success, despite the huge snowstorm. We followed up with the bus company to extend a thank you for getting everyone home safely.

The Polar Plunge, on 1/13, was a success. Thank you to Sean and Melissa for helping.

John has started to research a key fob system for the dog park and will keep everyone updated.

John is going to talk to PD about installing a camera at the top of the hill at West End.

The Recreation Department is a sponsor for the high school musical, Beauty and the Beast.

John has continued his efforts to have the courts at Church Street repaired.

The Youth Center attendance has been steady. To date there has been a total of 926 children that have attended. John is looking to hold Busy Bodies in Spring.

**Youth Report:**

Na'Shawn gave the report about upcoming events at the high school.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Next Meeting- Wednesday April 10, 2023, at 6:15 at the Youth Center**

**Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26pm was made by Brandy and seconded by Debbie. All those in favor:

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Absent: 2