



Aspen Recreation Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes: June 1, 2021

Call to order: 2:30pm by Scott Writer

In Attendance:

Scott Writer, Committee Chair

Sue Smedstad, AYC committee member

Karen Dillon, Committee Member

Steven Buettow, Committee Member

Sam Louras, Committee Member

Cory VanderVeen, Recreation Director

Austin Weiss, Parks, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Director

Erin Hutchings, Recreation Operations Manager and Committee liaison

Desiree Whitehead, Recreation Operations Manger

Absent:

Kelly Boggs, Committee member Aquatics

Vacant Position for Sparc

Public Comments:

Teri Hooper in attendance to advocate for instruction on the Public Skate session. Coaches are providing instruction to beginners. Freestyle sessions are advanced session and not conducive to beginner level.

Karen Dillion: Public skate sessions are run differently at different rinks. Sectioned off areas of ice. General in favor of continuing for learn to skate lessons.

Staff will need to continue the conversation with ice coaches, define boundaries, and rules of engagement.

Scott advocates for learn to skate programs for everyone.

Agenda Approval: Approved

Meeting Minute Approval: Correction of adding Steven Buettow to attended and removal of Bob Bowden this position is vacant. Sue approved; Karen 2nd all were in favor.

Discussion items:

Board Positions are open for application: The two positions are available for application on the City of Aspen web page under boards and commissions.

Sam and Kelly are welcome to reapply if interested.

The vacant Sparc position will remain empty until a candidate is available that meets the need. Scott will continue to work towards the transition of both Sparc and the Advisory Board.

The tax initiative will be necessary for the board to advocate and support. Austin described the timeline and planned to prepare for the planning process. Timing is critical.

POS software has transitioned to Rec Trac: Max Galaxy; the current POS/Registration software runs on silver light. Silver Light will no longer support Max Galaxy as of October. June 2, 2021, the division moves to Rec Trac.

General Recreation Updates: Pool has a new climbing feature. Stick and Puck and Freestyle sessions have returned. Project Graduation is Saturday keeping our seniors safe after graduation. Hockey Camps are starting up next week. Ice Garden is hosting movies, and the dry floor event has committed to August. Thor Knutson joins us as the Ice Programmer, brings new ideas, and gets ice up and running. Summer programs are back in action. Baseball, Camp, Sailing, Adult sports, climbing, and outdoor programs are coming online. Staffing shortages remain a problem for getting back to the total capacity. Two full-time positions are open for application.

Project Updates: Staff is getting started on the carry-forward projects from last year. We are continuing with some interior projects in the facilities, looking for new spray features. We are pricing out the NHL/training room.

Action Items:

Presentation on the ½ cent tax

Contact list of entities for the support of the ½ cent

Follow up on ice skating

Next Regular Meeting:

July 6st 2:30-4pm on Zoom and in person