

**Amherst Leisure Services Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**August 22, 2019**

**Present**                    Becky Demling, Youssef Fadel, Stephanie Jackson, Sarah Marshall,  
Victor Nunez-Ortiz and Meg Rosa (chair)

**Absent**                    None

**Staff**                     Barb Bilz, LSSE Director

**Call to Order**           Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Minutes**

- The minutes of the June 27, 2019 meeting were approved as amended by unanimous vote.

**Public Comment**      None

**Director's Report**

***Facilities and Fields***

- Grant application submitted for PARC Grant. Surveys distributed/completed and a public forum was held on June 27, 2019. Total request was for \$400,000. Met with grant review team representative from State with Nate Malloy. Meeting was very positive.
- Construction work continues at Groff Park. No word yet as to possible completion date.

***Golf Course***

- Two tournaments were held in July – Mike Ziomek Memorial Scholarship Tournament and David Dann Memorial Fund Raising Tournament. In addition the Course Championship for men and women were held in August.
- Mechanical issues with irrigation pump have been resolved.
- Aeration of course is scheduled for Monday, August 26.

***Aquatics***

- Overall numbers of swim lesson enrollment was up 3% over FY19.
- Overall satisfaction (as rated by parents) was 98%.

***Camps***

- Early Adventures and Adventure Playground enrollment was up 7% over FY19.

***Sports***

- Summer Sports Program enrollment was basically the same as in FY19 (down one percent).

- Chris Johnson has resigned as Sports Director. He has move to New York City and has taken a position with Harlem Lacrosse. His last day was August 16th. The position has been posted and closes on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### *4<sup>th</sup> of July*

- Revenues topped \$20,000.
- Internal evaluation meeting on 7/16/19 and another evaluation meeting with external partners will be held in September.
  - Recommendations for changes to 2020 4<sup>th</sup> event from internal evaluation meeting include:
    - Moving stage to center of field
    - Increasing number of beer vendors and increase advertising
    - Bring in camp staff and guards to help with clean-up on the 5th
    - Silent auction instead of raffle
    - More decorations
    - Ice in bags not coolers
    - Handouts with schedule as well as map
    - Porta potties on south side of field
    - Mill District’s “water park” needs to be moved or significantly reduced in size.

#### *Marketing, Registration and Operations*

- Marion Jordan started as the new Marketing and Registration Coordinator. She started her new position on July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Rachelle Doyle has been hired as the new ½ time Registrar. She will start at her position on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Strategic Plan*

- The Town has contracted with the UMass Donahue Institute to oversee a three year strategic plan for LSSE. Work will begin the last week of September and should be completed in January.

#### **Commission Comments**

- Becky Demling remarked on how helpful Chris Johnson, Sports Director, had been to an individual who had questions about one of our sports programs.
- The Commission said goodbye to Nate Budington, who has served out his term and Ken Johnson, who is moving out of the area. This leaves us with one vacancy on the Commission.

#### **Next Meeting**

- Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. at the Bangs Community Center

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.