

**THE CITY OF WHITE PLAINS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS**  
**RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 15, 2021**

**Present**

Honorable Jennifer Puja, Chairwoman  
Commissioner Wayne Bass  
Christopher Kent  
Charles Morgan  
Michele Schoenfeld  
Jonathan Schere  
Leonard Gruenfeld

Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Puja.

**Minutes from May 2021** – Motion to accept by Michele Schoenfeld, seconded by Jonathan Schere.  
Minutes accepted.

**Old Business**

**Battle of White Plains Playground** Renovation of playground to take place this Fall. Awaiting to hear from Landscape Structure on the shipping date of the equipment. Bids will be coming in soon to DPW for installation. The timeline is renovate late-August to late-October with an opening in early November.

**Solar Panels** at Gillie Park will be completed by the end of the month. Customers were cooperative and understanding of the parking congestion during the project. Gillie Park is one of 9 locations that the panels will be placed. When the project is complete, White Plains will be the largest municipal renewable energy deployment in the County, producing enough energy to power more than 700 homes annually.

**Juneteenth** was held in a virtual format. Wayne was the Grand Marshal for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. The program was well-received. The committee made tremendous gains with growing sponsorship and reducing overhead. Looking forward to exciting possibilities in 2022.

**Sandlot Baseball Clinic** was held at Gardella Park for 4 weeks on Wednesday evenings. 80 youth registered for the program. The program was free and led by the coaches and players of White Plains Little League. Each participant received a glove, wiffle bat/ball and Met tickets. Program was co-sponsored by WP Little League, Donovan Mitchell – NY Mets, Major League Baseball.

**Jack Harrington Greenway** The extension to Bryant Ave is near completeion and it is expected to be completed by early Fall.

## **Recreation and Parks Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting**

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### **New Business**

**Recreation Leader** position vacancy as Matt Quatrano resigned to take a job in recreation that is closer to his home in Connecticut and pays more. We are seeking to fill the position as soon as possible. The position has been posted and we plan to begin interviews by late July.

**Fall/Winter Guide** is on its way to the printer and will be mailed to resident households by late August. Our focus is on welcoming our customers back and we will feature a Open House program for our Seniors and People With Differing Abilities. We also will be having an Open House for our Skating School.

**Summer Camp** started on July 12. We have 78 campers at Camp Panawok and 112 at Camp Quarropas.

**Pools** opened on Father's Day Weekend. 926 pool passes sold to date. We are on target to meet and surpass our goals for the season.

**Soccer League** which has traditionally been held on Saturdays will be held on Sundays this Fall. The Saturday program has had dwindling registration for several years while the Sunday program has grown. We are looking to capitalize on our Sunday growth by offering League play at Parker Stadium on the turf field. Soccer clinics will be held on both weekend mornings.

**Comprehensive Plan** discussion on creating a vision for the Recreation Dept which will be presented to the One White Plains committee early next year. Also discussion on attracting students to the Recreation field and outreaching to students at WPHS.

Motion to adjourn by Christopher Kent, seconded by Charles Morgan.

**Meeting adjourned.**