

City of Norwich Youth Board Meeting May 6th, 2021

**Present: B. Burton
J. Eddy
S. Whaley**

**Also: R. Mason
J. Kraft
S. Sastri**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by J. Eddy

April 2021 Minutes: B. Burton motioned to accept the April minutes, seconded by S. Whaley, the motion was passed.

Recreation Coordinator Report: J. Kraft presented the summer 2021 recreation schedule. Tennis, pickleball and soccer will be on the same schedule as previous years. Use of facilities for those programs has been approved by the school. "Playground" has had a name change to "Summer fun Group". The traditional "Playground Program" has experienced dwindling numbers over the last number of years and has become more of an afternoon drop off for childcare. The locations will be on a rotating basis and include Art in the Park (Weiler Park), the skating facility building for arts, crafts, the playground area and inside activities on those rainy days and one afternoon at Guernsey Library. Days will be Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00. Guernsey Library has been cooperating in the planning. Swim lessons will be on a schedule similar to previous years but will be limited to six students per class because of COVID-19 restrictions. Up to three one half hour classes can be run at one time between the hours of 9:30 AM and 11:30. All summer activities will start on June 28th and run through August 6th.

Summer trips are being scheduled and so far, include Water Safari, Animal Adventure, and The Ross Park Zoo. Other destinations are being researched. Admission requirements for many locations are frequently changing because of COVID-19 precautions. Most likely transportation will be the responsibility of those attending. Buses might be available, but social distancing and other COVID concerns remain.

Recreation program signups will be held Friday May 21st between 5:00 and 7:00 at the skating facility building. Summer Trip signups will be held Monday May 24th between 5:00 and 7:00, also at the skating facility building. Assistance from board members for registration will be helpful.

Kurt Beyer Pool: R. Mason reported that information sharing with the YMCA, County Public Health and other agencies throughout the county that have pools is ongoing to facilitate a COVID friendly reopening. Changes in the pool operation will include tracking of those attending, lowering the capacity from 240 individuals, and separated areas for families around the pool perimeter. Facemasks will be required when not in the water. It may be necessary to not open the kiddie pool and to have "bathhouse" attendants on duty to frequent the bathhouse for cleanliness. These would not need to be certified lifeguards.

Summer Staffing: J. Kraft has been busy canvassing prior employees for their return. She has also advertised for new employees for recreation and pool positions. Applications are coming into the Youth bureau and human resource office.

Having no new business before the board B. Burton motioned to adjourn at 6:32 PM, seconded by S. Whaley and the meeting was adjourned.

The regular next meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be held Wednesday June 2nd at 6:00 PM.