

City of Norwich Youth Board Meeting June 2nd, 2021

Present: B. Burton
J. Eddy, K. Thompson
S. Whaley, M. Telesky

Also: R. Mason
J. Kraft

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by J. Eddy

May 2021 Minutes: B. Burton motioned to accept the May 2021 minutes, seconded by M. Telesky, the motion was passed.

Recreation Coordinator Report: The summer 2021 schedule was presented to the board by J. Kraft. Signups were held on May 24th. There was a total of 88 registrations which is a bit lower than previous non-covid years. Signups were held a month earlier than in the past. More registrations are expected and in many years on site registrations are received once activities start. Tennis, pickleball and soccer will be on the same schedule as previous years. Summer Fun Group has replaced the playground program which unfortunately had developed into little more than an afternoon day care. The program site will alternate between the skating facility building, Weiler park pavilion (Art in The Park) and Guernsey Library. Openings for all activities remain as well as most levels of swim instruction. Second session swim instruction will start the week of July 26th.

Summer trips: Trip admissions will be provided for The Enchanted Forest Water Safari, (60), Animal Adventure (75) and Ross Park Zoo (50). Admissions have been purchased and in part will be supported by a grant from the R.C. Smith Foundation. No bus transportation will be provided this summer because of COVID-19 precautions. The school is willing to provide the buses but remaining on the side of caution has prevailed. All trips have filled to capacity. There was discussion by board members in planning additional trips. With ever changing reopening rules and procedures of individual possible destinations board members were of the opinion to offer a pick-up and take-home activity similar to what was done in 2020 when the pandemic was at peak.

Kurt Beyer Pool: Kurt Beyer is on schedule to reopen the weekend of June 26th. How the pool is operated and staffed will be different this summer because of covid friendly reopening guidelines. The youth bureau is working with public health and the county youth bureau, YMCA and other pool operators to coordinate reopening and share ideas and experiences. The kiddie pool will not be open this summer for several reasons, but staff normally dedicated to that can be used for other pool related duties. The availability of lifeguards will not be a problem this summer.

Summer Staffing: Interviews are being conducted for recreation program staffing. More applications have been received than there are positions available.

Board Membership: J. Eddy has a potential youth member for appointment to the youth board. She will submit the contact information to the youth bureau office. Other youth members and adult board members are needed.

Having no further business before the board, B. Burton motioned to adjourn at 6:40 PM, seconded by M. Telesky and the meeting was adjourned.

The youth board will recess for the summer. R. Mason will update the board members as needed throughout the summer months. The next regular next meeting of the City of Norwich Youth Board will be held Wednesday September 1st at 6:00 PM.