

City of Norwich Youth Board Meeting September 1, 2021

Board Members

Present: **B. Burton**
 J. Eddy
 K. Thompson
 M Telesky

Also:

A. Testani
S. Stewart
A. Telesky
P. Marks

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

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

Introductions: The new Recreation Coordinator, Stephanie Stewart and Youth Bureau Director, Anthony Testani introduced themselves to the board. After which the rest of the board introduced themselves.

Board Membership: Patrick Marks and Abby Telesky attended the meeting as potential new board members. A. Testani provided both with the application, disclosure notice and by-laws for the Youth Board. Additional packets were passed to those in attendance as new members are still needed. Once the applications are returned, A. Testani will provide to the mayor for appointment.

Summer Recreation Programs: A. Testani provide the final numbers on the summer recreation programs. We offered swimming lessons, pickleball, soccer, summer fun club and tennis as summer programs this year. Overall there were 224 participates taking part in the different program. Swimming had the most participates with 133, followed by soccer - 36, tennis – 31, fun club – 21 and pickleball – 3. Pickleball was dropped due to low attendance. The 224 participates is up from 2019's 217.

Summer trips: Four trips were provided this year, Animal Adventure, white water rafting, Ross Park Zoo, and Water Safari. Participation in these events was 208. While this number was down from 2019's 246 we did offer one less trip. Also bus transportation was not provided which could have led to a lower turnout.

Kurt Beyer Pool: The pools attendance this year was 5,094. The pool was scheduled to be open 54 days with an actual opening of 52 days. Of the 52 days opened, 26 were opened all year. Attendance was down from 2019's 8,874 visitors. Reasons could be due to the continued concerns over COVID, and the closure of the kiddie pool all summer.

Summer Staffing: The youth bureau employed 22 area youths this summer, 15 at Kurt Beyer Pool, 3 in summer fun club and 2 in each of soccer and tennis.

Winter Programs: M. Telesky brought up concerns with starting the wrestling program. He would like to start as early as the 1st of November. Registration forms along with contacting the school to use the wrestling room need to take place early for this happen. S. Stewart and A. Testani were tasked to follow up with the school. Some discussion among the group took place on how to make registration easier. Once example was creating an online form, similar to what the Norwich Cyclones did this year. A. Testani was going to look into.

New Business: Additional discussion were held about potential winter programs. Volleyball, indoor baseball, intro to dance, art enrichment, tumbling/gymnastics, bowling, and cheerleading were all suggested as potential winter programs. Additional programs included a one-day ice skating class along with a cooking class and a couple of movies at the Colonial were suggested as well. As for winter trips a tubing trip to Wood Valley in Rome NY was suggested.

Having no further business before the board, B. Burton motioned to adjourn at 7:05 PM, seconded by M. Telesky and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Youth Board will be Wednesday October 6, 2021, at 6:30 pm in the City Hall meeting room.