



## CITY OF MARLBOROUGH

### RECREATION DEPARTMENT

239 Concord Road  
Marlborough, Massachusetts 01752  
Tel (508) 624-6925 TTY (508) 460-3610

#### COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cabral  
William Doherty  
Robert Kays: Chairman  
Melynda Gallagher  
Shanissa Sampson  
Mark Vital  
John Welch

#### DIRECTOR

Charles Thebado  
**PROGRAM MANAGER**  
Joseph Mulvey

**September 20, 2023**

Pursuant to the notice duly filed with the City Clerk, a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held at 5:30pm at the Recreation Office.

**Present were Commission Members:** Chairman Kays, Commissioner Vital, Commissioner Sampson, Commissioner Gallagher, Commissioner Welch, and Commissioner Cabral.

**Also attending** Recreation Director Charles Thebado.

#### **Approval of minutes 5-10-23**

On a motion duly made by Commissioner Vital and seconded by Commissioner Cabral, it was unanimously:

**VOTED:** To accept the 5-10-23 minutes.

**Parks Report:** Mr. White is not able to attend today's Commission meeting.

#### **Recreation Report - Charles Thebado, Director:**

Mr. Thebado gave the following Recreation Department report:

1. Memorial Beach in May continues to be an issue. Two vehicles and a few motorcycles were filmed driving on the beach. Loud music from portable speakers, swimmers swimming in boating lanes, public drinking and smoking marijuana, trash, etc., continue to be an ongoing issue when recreation staff is not present. I would suggest that the new policy for Memorial Beach is to be closed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May until after Labor Day but keep the parking lot gate open for residents to use the playground and basketball court.  
After a brief discussion the Commission stated they will revisit the matter in the beginning of next year, 2024.
2. Staffing was better this year but still in need of expanding the staff to offset when lifeguards call in sick or request time off when they are already scheduled. Our department will continue to recruit more staffing with lifeguard courses at Wayside.

3. Pools and splash pads experienced no shutdowns to equipment failure or chemical issues. Splash Pads this year unfortunately experienced a few issues. Mostly the rain divertor at Stevens and the water flow probes. On August 24<sup>th</sup>, Gary Guarino Renovations Manager at South Shore Gunitite Pools, Inc. came out to inspect the city wading pools to look into the prospect of replacing the decking and pool surfaces at both pools. On August 29<sup>th</sup>, he gave the following assessment . After reviewing the scope of work with the commercial team, the only thing we would recommend is removing and replacing both wading pools. Due to age and not being handicap accessible, the gunite shells have been compromised with cracks, more so at Ward Park pool from pour drainage on the hill side. They both need 3' stone under the pool so the frost does not get in. Hence all the cracks at the ward park will just come back after replacing the flooring. The city engineering department replied back to Gary at South Shore Gunitite that the city will discuss internally and let you know how we plan on proceeding.
4. The Department put on 8 summer concerts along with 2 kid concerts with the help of the Rock Institute, and the department also helped coordinate the Sr. BBQ / Concert at Memorial Beach on August 30<sup>th</sup>. The Rotary Club helped sponsor the event.
5. We held a Movie in the Park at the end of the summer at Kelleher Field which we had a great turnout of 250-300 people which was held on a Thursday night. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the early summer event due to inclement weather.
6. Skyhawks Sports Camps went very well. We were able to hold 9 separate camps over the summer.
7. Installed new extension Kayak dock at the Hixson Boat Launch to allow easier access. This season the kayak free rental program went very well.
8. The new Dek hockey rink here at Ghiloni Park was opened for the public on July 5<sup>th</sup>
9. Simela is again guaranteeing that the Recreation Department 30 scarecrows from local residents, youth groups, and city departments.
10. All fall programs are up and running.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm

Attest to:

Simela Perdikomatis  
Senior Clerk/Commission Secretary