

Recreation Commission
Wednesday, February 26, 2025
6:15pm

A meeting of the Port Jervis Recreation Department was held Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 6:15pm. The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm. The following were in attendance:

John Faggione, Director	Debbie Cunningham
Melissa Newhauser, Chairperson	Dawn Jones
Sean Addy, Vice Chair	
Colin O'Connell, Liaison	
Ayden Smedley, Youth Member	

Absent: Brandy Figueroa, Nashaun Campbell, Youth Member, Cory Puopolo, Stan Buczek

Public Comment:

None

Public Hearing:

None

Approval of Report and Minutes from January 2025:

A motion to approve the minutes and report from January was made by Debbie and seconded by Sean.

All those in favor:

Aye: 4

Nay: 0

Absent: 3

Executive Session:

None

New Business:

The plan for a new Splash Pad is in motion with the grand opening date anticipated for July 1st. Senator Skoufis has agreed to donate funding and John, DPW and the mayor have met with the company. Construction for the area, which is located on the middle level of Church Street, has begun.

John has discussed the revitalization plan and new Rec Center for Church Street with a consultant that has been hired by the city.

The Orange County Runners Club approached the city to hold a large-scale race throughout Port Jervis. October 19th is the date that they would like to hold the Big Orange 10 Miler. It will be promoted as a county race. It will start and end at Port Jervis High School. The committee will meet again in April. The application to have this race still needs to be submitted to the city.

John will keep everyone updated.

John would like to use grant money from the Orange County Legislative grant to purchase park equipment/furnishings to spruce up the parks. He has considered new benches and garbage receptacles.

New, matching park signage has been placed in all the parks and playgrounds. John is going to be replacing some park benches throughout the city.

The Spring Special Events were listed (Clean up 4/12, Easter Candy Dash 4/19, Delaware River Run 5/4, Midnight Madness 5/31-6/1)

John asked if anyone had ideas to help with celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Youth Center. The anniversary falls on 6/30. That is a busy week for the department. John would appreciate ideas or help with the planning.

Most of the DPW seasonal staff will be returning. 4 out of 5 lifeguards will be returning. John emailed civil service regarding the minimum age for hiring a lifeguard. Red Cross certifies lifeguards at the age of 15. It was discussed that if Recreation hires a 15-year-old that they can serve as a substitute until they are 16.

John reviewed the summer field trips.

The Beach and start of Summer Program are TBD. The bathhouse renovations will need to be completed by 6/22. John is looking for ideas to grow the attendance at our summer program at Church Street. Dawn suggested a special flyer or maybe theme weeks.

Old Business:

The Polar Plunge, on 1/11, was well attended.

The trip to the NJ devils went well. Everyone had a great day and the deposit for a 2026 trip has already been made.

Adult basketball, at PJMS, is going well. It is well attended. This program will finish at the end of March.

There are no DRI or Barclay Street updates.

John gave the Youth Center update. Total attendance to date is 739.

Youth Report:

Prom planning has begun. Boys and Girls basketball has made playoffs. Boys' basketball was awarded the Orange County Sportsmanship Award. Cory was awarded an award for his dedication to youth and basketball.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:07pm was made by Dawn and seconded by Sean. All those in favor:

Aye: 4 Nay: 0 Absent: 3

Next Meeting- Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 6:15 at the Youth Center

