

**TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON/VILLAGE OF NORTHVILLE  
JOINT YOUTH COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING  
April 19, 2021**

Chair Gritsavage opened the Northampton/Northville Joint Youth Commission Special meeting on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 7:06 p.m. at 412 South Main Street, Northville, New York.

**PRESENT:** Town Board Councilman/Chairman-William Gritsavage and  
Councilwoman: Molly Zullo  
Village Trustees: Sue Sedon and Sue Eckert  
Ken Adamczyk-Joint Youth Director  
Village Treasurer: Nathaniel Matthews  
Excused NCS Board Trustees: John Sira and Dean Shepard

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kate Coupas

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Elaine Mihalik – Town Clerk

**MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Trustee Sue Sedon motioned to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2021 Joint Youth Commission meeting as presented. Seconded by Trustee Sue Eckert and passed by A Vote of 4 Ayes: William Gritsavage, Sue Sedon, Sue Eckert, and Molly Zullo

0-Nays

0-Abstain

The Motion Carried

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the restrictions/regulations/safety guidelines pertaining to the possible opening of the 2021 Summer Recreation Program and the beach due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Commission members were informed that there will be a NYMIR Playground Maintenance and Inspection Webinar on April 28, 2021 at 10 a.m.

For camp explained Ken Adamczyk, we have to following the self-inspections that we normally do. To open the camp, it talks about the personnel, the water supply, the sewerage, toilets, showers, and medical.

\*Discussion DOH: What are the approved training courses for lifeguards and WSI. DOH will have a new list on COVID coming out soon. Medical, house, safety, and food which does not apply to us now but if they were to take a trip or with recreational stuff.

I did have a meeting with Dr. Ford and Ms. Fordyce from NCS. We are going to fall under our regular camp rules along with the guidelines for DOH-Forward Safety Plan, the NYS, the CDC, NYMIR, and the Northville Central School.

\*As of last week, gym classes distancing was 12 feet apart. As of this week it is 6 feet apart. We still have to wear masks. When we are on the school property, we have to follow the school rules.

\*The other issue is the buses. If we want to take a day trip you can only have 28 on a 64-passenger bus. We used to take two buses and fill them up. Now it means we have to have 4 bus drivers and pay each one which is double our cost on a day trip. That is if we can find enough places to go that is safe. We have to provide PPE and cleaning supplies. We have to wash and disinfect anything that is handled and placed in a sanitation bin before giving to another kid. They are pretty clear about not sharing with one another.

\*If we do use the school, there is another added expenditure. We are going to have to pay the school a bathroom cleaning fee because there is no one in the school during the day except the janitors. So, If the kids have to use the bathroom, then we have to pay for the bathrooms to be cleaned for the days that we are there.

How much would it cost per day to clean the bathroom? For two bathroom I would guess approximately \$50 - \$100 a day replied Mr. Adamczyk.

\*We will have to purchase at least three thermometers.

\*We have to have isolation plans set-up if a child gets sick during camp. You have to have less Councilor's per group of kids. You have to keep the kids with the same group and that same Councilor every day.

\*If we were to move forward with the Summer Camp, would it have to be limited capacity? Some might not want their kid to come stated Ken. While others might want to get there kids out and the numbers are going to go up.

\*There was discussion on residency.

\*Discussion ensued on contact tracing and if someone does not show-up at camp. Someone has to make a call if a kid doesn't show up for camp. We get approximately 120 kids sign up for camp and on an average 70 show up per day.

\*There was discussion on social distancing. What activities can we do for the kids?

Last year we took in no money explained Nathaniel Matthew because we did not bill any of the municipalities because there was no program. There were still expenditures that we were concurring and that came out of our fund balance.

What does our fund balance look like asked Councilman Gritsavage?

It looks like five years ahead of schedule when we were trying to systematically draw it down.

This past year Ken was trying to run events and his salary stated intact for the entire year explained Nathaniel Matthews. A couple of events were able to occur. If you were looking at doing a scaled back version of let's do what we can, when we can program not during the five-week summer camp. Normally the Town of Northampton and Village of Northville foot the bill for the extra programs, for the beach and for the events. That keeps us in a good position for the following year stated Nathaniel Matthews.

Councilman William Gritsavage was concerned about liability with COVID.

After a lengthy discussion a motion was made as follows.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Molly Zullo motioned to not to have the 2021 Summer Recreation Program. Seconded by Trustee Sue Eckert and passed by

A Vote of 4 Ayes: William Gritsavage, Sue Sedon, Sue Eckert, and Molly Zullo

0-Nays

0-Abstain

The Motion Carried

## **BEACH**

Katie Coupas explained that the beach is a concern because the lifeguards are there to guard the patrons and cannot be responsible for checking people in or monitoring.

We are going to need another person to manage the parking lot. I would like to believe we would have to have a system of beach passes that they would have to pay for. We have people from all over at the beach. We've had people come to the beach from Albany and Schenectady. It is not just Gloversville and Johnstown. They come up for the day and they do not have to pay to come on to the beach. According to these restrictions/regulations/safety guidelines we have to restrict 50% of the occupancy.

Trustee Sue Sedon asked, what is the capacity of the beach? These restrictions/regulations/safety guidelines state they have to be 6 feet apart. You would need a person that watches this. The lifeguards are supposed to have their eyes on the water. What is the difference between the 6 feet

and 10 feet mentioned in the guidelines? It was explained that you would have to cordon off the beach with a 10-foot square. You would have to put flags 10 feet and they would have to have a walkway so they could get to the beach or to parking. If you were a family, you would have 6 feet. Somebody would have to monitor that 6-foot social distance and wearing masks at the beach. They would also have to monitor people that are standing lining up at the port-a-potty at 6 feet distances which we cannot mark the ground there because it is the parking lot. Then that person also has to clean the pot-a-potty and hand washing stations which it must have frequent cleaning. You might need to hire two people to do these positions.

Katie Coupas mentioned that she has had situations where she has been called terrible names.

I would not want to put a student in that position.

There was discussion on why the beach permit system was done away with when they were issued in the past. It was stated that we might have to go back to it stated Councilman Gritsavage.

It was suggested that we could charge for the beach permit and limit it to only the people from the Town of Northampton and Village of Northville.

There was discussion on surrounding towns and their beaches. Mayfield has multiple people working there and they have a much larger operation than we have. We've had 4 lifeguards work the season. The number of lifeguards that are certified right now is very low because there were no lifeguard classes last year. The lifeguard classes are already starting and usually they are over the February break. You have to recertify your CPR every year and you have to recertify lifeguard every two years. The Red Cross might have extended it but it doesn't mean that the NYS DOH has extended it. That would have to be looking into because it keeps changing on it.

There was discussion on what happens if one of the lifeguards or workers gets sick.

It states in the Beach guidelines you should have back up staff. Do you quarantine the beach?

-Wells this year is locking down their beach and they are only going to allow the people from Wells use the beach.

-Mayfield may not be opening this year.

-The Northampton Campsite is State and it is completely different than what we are doing. 80%-85% of the people on that beach are not from Northville or Northampton.

-There are concerns of people parking on State Highway 30 and it was stated that is out of our control.

-Our beach has had mostly families and grandparents. We rake our beach every morning and it is clean; we straighten the buoys and we have the markers out. People have come to our beach when they were not allowed on the Park Association Beach. We've had mostly people that were driving in and children riding their bikes in.

There was discussion on whether the car would be permitted or the people in the car permitted. You would have to have them get a permit or they would not be permitted to come on the beach. The problem with the police is that they are shorthanded. It was suggested swearing in people as Constables.

-Not having lifeguard classes available in the near vicinity could be a concern.

How would it be if we had certain parameters in place?

-hire a few more lifeguards

-marking of the beach is a safety concern. Everything on the beach is picked up at the end of the day explained Katie Coupas. When the lifeguards come in the next morning, they find all kinds of stuff on the beach. Such as party stuff, lines have been cut and we had a buoy floating. That is extra things for them to do.

There was discussion on marking the ground

- \* mark with chalk or use metal flags or cones with a 10' rope attached to mark the beach and remove at closing every day. There was concern of permanent things being placed and running the risk of vandalism.

- going to need to hire 4 extra adult people to monitor the beach and work the gate (suggested \$15 - \$18 pay rate)
- purchase cleaning supplies for the bathroom and to wipe down equipment
- think about charging for permits
- limit it to Northampton and Northville residents
- need to have station tables and to be done in an orderly manner
- it someone refuses to wear a mask (they will have to leave and not go to the beach for the day)
- hours weekdays: 1 p.m. – 6 p.m. and weekends: 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. The gate then gets locked up for the evening.
- need signage for the parking lot

Suggested \$15 - \$18 pay rate for guards and security

After discussion a motion was made as follows

**MOTION:** Trustee Sue Eckert motioned to further explore the possibility of opening the beach with the idea for just for the Village of Northville and Town of Northampton residents and to charge for a beach permit. The Commission will make a decision after we have more facts. Seconded by Trustee Sue Sedon and passed by

A Vote of 4 Ayes: William Gritsavage, Sue Sedon, Sue Eckert, and Molly Zullo

0-Nays

0-Abstain

The Motion Carried

We would like to see the Northville Central School members to attend the Joint Youth Commission. We should make a further request.

The Clerk was directed to post in in the legal newspaper the notice to fill the Gate Keeper 2021 Summer Beach positions that will begin June 26<sup>th</sup> thru August 8<sup>th</sup>. Applications due in by May 6, 2021.

The next meeting has been scheduled for May 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

### **Executive Session**

Councilwoman Molly Zullo motioned to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel at 8:36 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Sue Sedon passed by

William Gritsavage      Aye

Molly Zullo              Aye

Sue Eckert                Aye

Sue Sedon                Aye

0-Nays

0-Abstain

Motioned carried

Trustee Sue Sedon motioned to exit out of Executive Session with no action taken at 8:50 p.m.

Seconded by Trustee Sue Eckert passed by

William Gritsavage      Aye

Molly Zullo              Aye

Sue Eckert                Aye

Sue Sedon                Aye

0-Nays

0-Abstain

Motioned carried

**ADJOURN:** With no further business coming before the Joint Youth Commission Board, Councilwoman Molly Zullo motioned to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Sue Eckert and passed by

A Vote of 4 Ayes: William Gritsavage, Sue Sedon, Sue Eckert, and Molly Zullo

0-Nays

0-Abstain

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Mihalik

Town Clerk