

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Community Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
5/14/25

Attending: Andrea Ernst (AE), Becky Bryant (BB), Megan Roy (MR2), and Christine Syska (CS)

Absent: Debbie Grew, Jill Palmore and Megan Rogers

Meeting opened at 5:31 pm - Kathy Raftice

Public Comment & Correspondence - None

Approval of draft minutes from March 12, 2025

Motion by CS to approve minutes, second by AE. Motion passed (4 – Yes, 0 – No).

CECS Updates

KR shared a reminder about Cape Challenge on 5/18 and road closures. She also provided an update on Cape Resident Open Lighthouse Day, 5/18 and Gift Shop & Museum opening 5/24. KR shared that after the Memorial Day parade there is an open house at the police and fire stations. The town has officially changed from .org to .gov. KR and Susan Frost recently met with Cape Hoops about next basketball season. A very productive meeting with great options for all kiddos. Next meeting is with Cape Soccer Club. KR explained that the club is now offering a rec league and has lowered their minimum age to Kindergarten. The committee discussed how this has effected Community Services. Communication important going forward. There will be a couple STP students working at the lighthouse this spring. KR shared a reminder that the last day of school is a half-day on Monday, 6/16.

Youth – Susan Frost & Dana Hatton

KR and committee discussed how the weather has effected the spring. Those effected are; travel lacrosse, skill lacrosse, cross-country and tennis. Susan Frost has been handling it all, which is a full time job by itself and is rescheduling where she can. Great job by Susan! KR shared some results from the new registrations and the large increase in karate (30) and Irish dance (34). Great for the programs. KR then explained the large waitlists for art classes and the lower numbers allowed due to the needed hands on approach. KR and committee discussed the large number of kids that register for Legos! Chess and cross-country continue with their strong results. Summer camps are doing well. KR shared that Band Camp has 50 kids enrolled! Kudos to Susan for all she offers!

Adults – Linda Strunk

Linda has continued to impress with the variety of offerings for our adult population. She has a new Pilate's instructor with a class on Fridays. She had 8 register and now drop-ins too! KR updated the committee on the Passport processing. We are now at 150 completed in the first 3 months. Committee discussed waitlists in adult classes as well. Some offerings (Pickleball, tennis and WOW) limited by space.

Seniors/Marketing – Jane Anderson

KR brought the committee up to date on our aging population programming by Jane. Lots of variety as different things interest different folks. Many trips have picked up in registrations with waitlists on some. Jane will accompany the group on the trip to the Boston Red Sox on June 4. This trip was coordinated by Jane which is a large undertaking however it and has filled which is great.

Pool & Fitness – Andrew Kemp

KR shared that the MS swim season is done which opens some additional time for lap swims. The updated schedule is posted. KR explained that the pool is only closed a few of the major holidays, Memorial Day is one of those days. KR and committee discussed Cape Cyclones. What it is and how it originated. Great program for those kids past swim lessons but not sure they want or are ready for competitive swimming. Andrew has scheduled a friendly swim meet on Monday, June 9. Parents and friends welcome. KR shared the pool and fitness center closure dates for the summer annual cleaning. Andrew will conduct the CPR & First Aid training for our summer camp staff on the afternoon of June 20.

Cape Care and Summer Camp – Kelly Phinney

KR brought the committee up to date on the registration process and results. Preschool (3 & 4 year olds) have 14 registered with some scheduled for the full week and others 3 or 4 days a week. The PreK has the full 30 registered and both before care and after care are full. KR shared that Kelly Phinney does a wonderful job coordinating the staffing and communications for these different programs. Our PreK graduation ceremony is scheduled for Friday, June 13 and PreK screening for next year is Friday, June 20. KR explained how then Kelly rolls into summer camp mode with staff training and the moving of all the summer camp equipment on June 23 & 24. Camp begins on June 25!

Fort Williams/PHL Update

KR shared that the FW tennis courts should be completed in the next month, fingers crossed the weather cooperates. We will be hosting our spring cross-country meet on Wed, May 21. KR and committee discussed the food vendor process in the park and the expected addition of CSalt. KR shared the new Ranger Walk & Talks, developed by

Dom Walker. First walk had 24 participants. This was a great idea by Dom and he is looking to developed additional programs when back in the office. KR shared some reminders for all; HS Graduation – June 1, Fun Fest – June 7 and Sounds by the Sea begins on July 7. KR was happy to report that the bell repair work is complete and the new windows are in! The assistant gift shop position has been filled however; we are always looking for new volunteers!

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Raftice