

Organizational Assessment of the Parks and Recreation Department Jamestown, RI

TECHNICAL REPORTS

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Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management

MCCORMACK GRADUATE SCHOOL OF POLICY AND GLOBAL STUDIES



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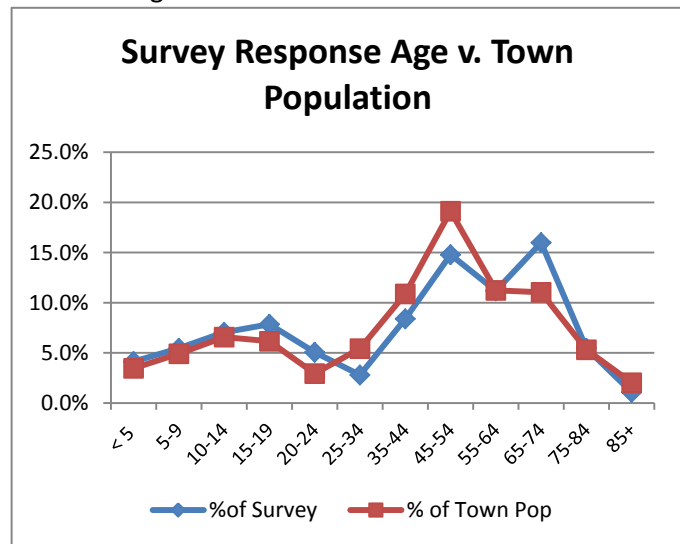
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APPENDIX C: OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM SURVEY AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Background

In order to understand community sentiment regarding the facilities and services offered by the Parks & Recreation Department, a community survey was distributed and three community meetings were held. The survey was open for response between July 16th and August 16th, being made available on-line via a link posted on the Town website, and by hard copy, having been printed by the Jamestown Press and distributed with the newspaper on July 25, 2013. Additional hard copies were made available at Town Hall, the Library, Recreation Center, and McQuade's grocery store. The three community meetings were held on weekday evenings in July and August on the topics of "Special Events, Arts, and Culture", "Recreational Activities for Adults and Seniors", and "Recreational Activities for Youth and Teens".

The survey respondents represent a solid cross-section of the Jamestown community. A total of 411 survey responses were received, including 225 submitted via hard copy and 186 on-line. Overwhelmingly, survey respondents were Jamestown residents and the majority indicated that they had lived in town in excess of 15 years. Out of 390 respondents, 380 (97.4% of respondents) of them identified themselves as residents and 10 (2.6%) indicated they were not residents. Another 22 did not respond to the question. A total of 242 (63.4%) respondents indicated they had lived in town for more than 15 years. Respondents were asked to indicate the ages of their household members and the results were very similar to the population distribution by age for Jamestown, with the exception of a higher than average number of survey respondents aged 64 to 74. In terms of neighborhood, responses were received from all areas of town, with the largest number of respondents living in the Village (149 respondents), followed by Jamestown Shores (85 respondents), and North End of the Island (43 respondents). An additional 62 respondents did not answer the question regarding neighborhood. All together, 180 respondents answered at least one open-ended question which required them to take additional time to write or type an answer, as opposed to simply checking a box.



The community meetings were attended by between two and nine people each. (Tabulated survey results and meeting notes can be found in Appendix D.)

Findings

The significant level of response to the survey and the community meetings alone is evidence that Jamestown residents care about their recreational facilities and the services that the Town offers through the Parks & Recreation Department. The survey and meeting notes provide detailed insights into residents' opinions of the facilities and services offered by the Department. A total of seven (7)

overarching findings can be made:

1. Jamestown residents actively utilize their parks, beaches, and playing fields.

Nearly 80% (320 respondents) of those who responded to the survey indicated they used the parks, beaches, or playing fields in Jamestown more than 12 times per year. This far overshadowed those who used these same amenities only 6-12 times per year or 1-5 times per year. However, when asked to identify the three parks, beaches, or recreational facilities that they “use the most”, only two of the top three responses were Town facilities. As can be seen, the top three most used locations were Mackerel Cove, Beavertail State Park, and Fort Getty Park, followed closely by Fort Wetherill State Park.

MOST COMMONLY USED PARKS, BEACHES, PLAYING FIELDS, OR RECREATIONAL FACILITES	
Location	Responses
Mackerel Cove	219
Beavertail State Park	215
Fort Getty Park	170
Fort Wetherill State Park	133
Shore’s Beach (aka, Heads Beach)	59
Battery Park	54
Recreation Center	54
Jamestown Golf Course	49
Rights-of-way to the water	42
Veteran’s Memorial Square at East Ferry	41
Community Playground	40
Lawn Avenue / Schools Playing Fields	37
Soccer fields at Eldred Road	34
Watson Avenue Tennis Courts	27
Jamestown Country Club	19
Taylor Point (aka, Potter’s Cove)	18
Hull’s Cove	15
Lawn Avenue Playground	14
Jamestown Skate Park	11
Park Dock	11
Veteran’s Cemetery	3

One aspect that the top four facilities have in common is that they are largely un-programmed and are multi-purpose; i.e., individuals and families can use these parks for an array of different activities, in contrast to a golf course which has a defined use. Another aspect is that they are very large and can accommodate more users at one time that some other types of parks in Jamestown.

The importance of largely un-programmed outdoor amenities was further emphasized by the types of activities that Jamestown residents find to be important to them. When asked how important 11

different types of activities were to them, the most important activities were “swimming” (212 “very important” responses), “gentle exercise such as walking or tai chi” (163 “very important” responses), and “reading, relaxation, or contemplation” (162 “very important” responses). The next most important activity, perhaps not surprising given Jamestown’s waterfront location, was “boating and sailing” with 123 responses. Interestingly, the activity rated least important was “dog walking/dog recreation” although the Town’s off-leash recreational areas were found to be an area of strong dissatisfaction among respondents (see Finding #2 below).

Facilities whose predominant users would be children or youth tended to be listed on the mid- to lower-end of the list of facilities, with between 11 and 54 respondents listing these among the three parks and facilities they use most. Among these, three of the locations would most likely be used for organized sports and activities were the Recreation Center, playing fields at the Lawn Avenue schools, and the soccer fields on Eldred Road.

FACILITIES GEARED TOWARD YOUTH	
Location	Responses
Recreation Center	54
Community Playground	40
Lawn Avenue / Schools Playing Fields	37
Soccer fields at Eldred Road	34
Lawn Avenue Playground	14
Jamestown Skate Park	11

Supporting this observation is the fact that the greatest number of respondents (53.7% of total, 206 respondents) indicated that they most often visit parks, beaches, and playing fields with other adults or by themselves. A significantly smaller number (21.1%, 81 respondents) indicated that they visit with a child or children. However, these proportions are nearly identical to the age distribution in town where 21.1% of the population is under the age of 20 and 57.6% of the population is between the age of 35 and 84.¹ Perhaps what is then unique about Jamestown is the fact that so many adults are utilizing the Town’s outdoor spaces. In other communities, perhaps in more urban or suburban locations, many adults most often find themselves outside only when they are accompanying their children to organized sports.

2. Fort Getty Park users most frequently use the beaches, trails, and the pavilion; the RV/camping facilities were least used, followed by the dock.

With 43.2% (130 respondents) indicating that they use them more than 6 times per year, the beaches were the most used amenity in the park. This was followed by the trails, where 41.1% (122 respondents) indicated that they use the trails with the same level of frequency. The RV and camping facilities received low rates of utilization, which is not surprising given that the majority of respondents were Jamestown residents. However, the dock and boat ramp also received relatively high numbers of respondents who “do not use” them. Specifically, 58.8% (100 respondents) of respondents did not use

¹ Jamestown has proportionately fewer children than the State as a whole (24.9% under age of 20 in Rhode Island and 21.1% in Jamestown). In addition, the median age is 39.4 years of age in Rhode Island and 50.7 in Jamestown.

the boat ramp and 51.9% (139 respondents) did not use the dock.

In the open-ended questions, at least 26 respondents offered comments relating to Fort Getty. Several of these related to the physical facilities, including the poorly maintained road, need for trees in the RV area, need to improve the showers, dog droppings, the need for more benches, maintenance of the bathrooms, and the need for bathroom facilities in the winter. Two specifically addressed, the fact that the recently repaired boat ramp is not adequate for taking motorboats out of the water. Some comments offered programmatic suggestions of more music events, a swap meet or flea market, and more water sports, including moving the rental of kayaks and canoes from Mackerel Cove to Fort Getty. Still others mentioned administrative issues such as having more staff at the Parks & Recreation Department to support Fort Getty operations. Opinion was mixed on what is perhaps the most significant issue surrounding the Fort which is the use of space for RV parking. At least one respondent was complementary of the recent changes, while a few others recommended that the RVs be removed in their entirety. One other respondent suggested that the Town develop and implement a comprehensive plan, with public involvement and using a charette format.

3. Jamestown residents place a high value on maintenance of public recreational facilities and are generally satisfied, with some exceptions.

Overwhelmingly, Jamestown residents indicated that “cleaning and routine maintenance of parks and beaches” was “very important” or “important”. In fact, 80.1% (309 respondents) found cleaning and maintenance to be “very important” and 18.1% (70 respondents) found it to be “important”, for a total of 98.2% placing a very high priority on this issue. When compared to other responses, cleanliness and maintenance was the highest priority by far. When asked to rate the actual cleanliness and maintenance of facilities, the responses were also favorable, but not by as large a margin. Overall, 18.5% (73 respondents) found maintenance to be “excellent” and 64.3% (254 respondents) found it to be “good” or “satisfactory”. However, 16.7% (46 respondents) found cleanliness and maintenance to be “fair” or “poor”.

When asked more specifically about their satisfaction with different aspects of parks, beaches, and playing fields, additional nuances were revealed. While part of this question related to the existence of certain types of facilities, or lack thereof, other aspects asked about the quality of facilities. Starting with the area of greatest dissatisfaction, residents were found to be most dissatisfied with off-leash recreational areas, the quality of sport surfaces, and quality of paths, walkways, and stairs.

In the case of off-leash areas, Jamestown does not have a formally sanctioned area where dogs can run without leashes, which may be the reason this issue received a strongly negative response. Specifically, 13.9% (47 respondents) were “dissatisfied” with off-leash recreational areas and an additional 10.7% (36 respondents) were “somewhat satisfied”. Off-leash recreational areas had the greatest number of strongly negative responses of all areas. The website “dogfriendly.com” listed Fort Getty as being pet-friendly, but indicated that the dogs must be on leashes that cannot extend beyond a camp site’s boundary.

A larger absolute number of respondents, however, were less than satisfied with sport surfaces, with 19.2% (68 respondents) being “somewhat satisfied” and 9.3% (33 respondents) indicating they were “very dissatisfied”. When asked what would encourage them to use Jamestown facilities more often, one survey respondent wrote, “Better athletic facilities! Our fields and courts are embarrassing!”

Multiple respondents indicated that the Town's tennis courts should be resurfaced and/or better maintained.

That said, by far the greatest number of respondents were "somewhat satisfied" or "dissatisfied" with the "quality of paths, walkways, and stairs". A total of 167 respondents fell into these two categories with 38.7% (140 respondents) being "somewhat satisfied" and 7.5% (27 respondents) being "dissatisfied". One comment specifically addressed the issue of overgrown sidewalks and how property owners are not maintaining them so that pedestrians need to walk in the street. A number of respondents also commented on the issue of bicycle facilities, which will be described below (see Finding #7) and it is uncertain whether they were indicating dissatisfaction with bike paths or walking paths.

Some respondents commented on maintenance at specific locations, including:

- Trash and litter at Mackerel Cove is disgusting.
- Park and rec dept (sic) should team up with town maintenance crew to keep beaches and parks clean. The litter corps can only accomplish so much.
- Dog dropping is a problem at Ft. Getty, Ft Wetherill, and East Ferry area.
- Rec (sic) people who drive the town own truck need to wear seat belt, and to tie down any trash, branches, etc. that flies (sic) out of truck", The upkeep of current green space is poor.
- Maintain the baseball fields.

Additional comments were made relative to the maintenance and safety at the community playground:

- The community playground should be improved and made safer by putting some trends or safety tape on some of the slates which are extremely slippery. Every time I bring my grandchildren to the park some child falls or slips on the slats.
- Maintain playground at this point upgrade and fix it. Weed the playground, put down a better surface (actual sand or wood chips) Stop leaving broken toys and/or discourage the practice.
- Playground at library needs new equipment and better ground cover. Get rid of sand. There are tons of wasps living there, prevents safe playtime!!
- The playground near the library needs to be better maintained!

4. Over a two year period, the average Jamestown resident attends more than five local cultural events.

When asked to indicate all of the events they had attended at any time in the past two years, a total of 2,086 responses were received. When divided by the 378 respondents to this question, that equals an average 5.5 events per person or household. Since the question asked what events they attended over the past two years and opportunity did not exist for them to indicate whether they attended a particular event two years in a row, the actual number of events attended could be even higher.

The Jamestown Fireworks was by far the most attended event, with 89.4% (338 respondents) of respondents indicating they had attended the fireworks recently, but the Jamestown Concert Series, the Fools Rules Regatta, the Jamestown Art Association Art Show, and the Jamestown Craft Show had over 200 responses each. In fact, given that only a sub-set of the Jamestown population (0.7%) responded to the survey, the extrapolated attendance figures for nearly all events would be substantial.

EVENTS ATTENDED IN PAST TWO YEARS	
Event	Responses
Jamestown Fireworks	338
Jamestown Summer Concert Series	229
Fools Rules Regatta	221
Jamestown Art Association Art Show	215
Jamestown Craft Show	207
Jamestown Community Theater	179
Jamestown Day	94
Jamestown Talent Show	88
Blood Drive (January)	77
Jack O'Lantern Jog	77
Jamestown Classic (bike race)	76
Easter Egg Hunt	62
Jamestown Skatefest	54
Green Up Day	53
Men's Chorus of Jamestown Concert	39
Friends of Youth Speaker Series	23
Teen Talent Show	20
Pinewood Derby	16
St. Matthews Family Basketball Tournament	14
Bridges Story Telling Concert	4
Total Responses	2,086

Participants at the Special Events, Arts and Culture community meeting indicated why they thought community events were so important and popular in Jamestown. They felt that it: enriched the quality of life, brought the community together, especially across generations and among longtime and newer residents; allowed young people to break out of their shells; and was consistent with town residents' appreciation of aesthetics and the environment. They also felt that events that worked with the small town, creative culture of town were most popular.

Despite the number of existing events, survey respondents did express an interest in having additional events, or at least different types of events, available to them. Several respondents expressed interest in additional music concerts, with the suggestion that Fort Getty could be a possible location. An outdoor theater/dance series and a lecture series were suggested by more than one individual and block parties or parties in different neighborhoods in town were also recommended. A swap meet at Fort Getty and a fishing derby were recommended by one respondent each.

Community meeting participants offered many of the same suggestions as the survey participants, but they also added a film series as one of their suggestions.

5. Jamestown residents actively participate in recreation programs, but not at the same levels as the special events. In addition, while more youth participated in programs than adults, they did not

do so by a significantly large margin.

When asked to identify all of the recreational programs they or members of their household had participated in during the past two years, a total of 818 responses were received. When divided by the 231 respondents who answered this question, it translates into 3.5 recreational activities per household in the past two years, a not insubstantial number. However, what is significant is that 181 respondents (44%) skipped the question altogether. Since the question did not offer “did not participate” as an option, it can be assumed that many who skipped the question did so because they did not participate in programmatic activities. Only 34 respondents (8.3%) did not answer the equivalent question related to special events. From this it is clear that many of the same households that are participating actively in special events are not participating in recreational programs. Of course, special events and recreational programs require differing levels of commitment, so it should not be expected that participation levels be equivalent, but this is an issue that perhaps should be further investigated.

When evaluating the programs that had the greatest levels of participation, it should be noted that any survey is only a snapshot of those who participate and it will not capture all of the participants in the recreation programs; the Department tracks actual participation via a spreadsheet it maintains. That said, the Jamestown Community Theatre received the most responses, with 71 participants. However, “participating” in the community theater could be either as an attendee of a performance or as a member of the cast or crew, so it is part special event and part recreational program. As such, the numbers could be skewed upward and the community theater figure should be considered separately from the other recreational programs.

Of the total responses, 418 (51.1%) of them were for programs designed exclusively for young people, 274 (33.5%) for adults, and 126 (15.4%) were multi-generational programs. While it is clear that the majority of participants are children or youth, a significant number of adults also participated in recreational programs.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS IN PAST TWO YEARS	
Jamestown Community Theatre	71
Jamestown Soccer Association	54
Yoga	45
Gentle Yoga	41
CISF Sailing Camp	40
Free Sailing (Wednesday night at Ft. Getty)	40
Save the Bay Summer Camp	40
Jamestown Baseball Association	37
Jamestown Summer Camp	37
Beginners Yoga	34
Open Recreation	34
Youth Basketball (K-8)	33
Adult Tennis	31
Baseball Camp Week	27
Basketball Camp Week	27
Pilates	24

CYO Basketball	17
Higher Level Soccer	16
Tai Chi @ Recreation Center	16
Youth Tennis	16
Bully Program	14
Adult Recreational Volleyball	13
Over 40 Co-ed Soccer	13
Open Co-ed Recreational Soccer	12
Tai Chi @ Country Club	12
Over 35 Baseball	11
Mellow Vinyassa	10
Adult Fitness Boot Camp	7
Adult Softball	7
Adult Ballet	6
Outdoor Cooperative Volley Ball (youth & adult)	6
Youth Volleyball	6
Intergenerational Volleyball	5
Adult Competitive Volleyball	4
Bridges Open Recreation	4
Girls Softball	4
String Ensemble	4
Kinder Gym	0
Total	818

Overall, 418 responses were received for programs that served youth exclusively, including organized sports, such as basketball or soccer, and various camps, such as the Jamestown Summer Camp. (This figure does not represent unique children, however, as a child could participate in more than one program over the course of the two years of the question.) Participation by program ranged from the highest level in the Jamestown Soccer Association at 54 responses to the lowest with Kinder Gym at 0 responses. When grouping the programmatic offerings by type, it becomes clear that the youth camps received the highest levels of participation, followed by soccer, basketball, and baseball/softball. (Athletic camps for baseball, basketball, etc. were listed under camps so they were not double counted.) However, not all parents were completely satisfied with the camp offerings, “Jamestown Summer Camp could use some more creative ways to keep kids engaged. My kids don't want to go because they think it is boring. Maybe hold it at the playground?” Others were effusive about the camps, but offered suggestions for improvements, “I think the Town Basketball camp should be longer than just 2 hours. I think 3 hours or even 4 would be better. More sports camps would be great, like a soccer camp run by the town. A lacrosse camp would be great too. Camp should survey parents of campers to see how camp is doing. We love the Jamestown camps!”

One of the respondents commented on the organization of the athletic programs, specifically, “youth basketball and baseball programs need better organization/management. Basketball program needs to be converted into a league with teams. Baseball needs more structure with umpires and actual tryout period to evaluate kid’s abilities.”

YOUTH PROGRAM PARTICIPATION (SUMMARY)	
Youth camps	171
Youth soccer	82
Youth basketball	50
Youth baseball/softball	41
Open recreation	38
Youth tennis	16
Bully Program	14
Youth volleyball	6
Total	418

What is evidenced in the above list of programs and was also commented on by survey respondents is that at present, all of the programming is focused on athletic activities. One respondent asked for “different programs for kids that aren't the "sporty' type” and participants at the community meetings seconded this opinion. Another participant requested more, and more structured, offerings for toddlers. Another asked for “programs offered for tweens during summer”.

When reviewing the adult program offerings, they too are focused on athletic activities. However, two of the top three most attended activities are low impact sports of yoga/pilates or tai chi. These happen to be the activities that were most commonly scheduled at the second floor of the country club, space that is no longer available for this purpose due to structural issues with the building. More than one respondent commented with unhappiness about the loss of the space and associated programming.

ADULT PROGRAM PARTICIPATION (SUMMARY)	
Yoga / Pilates	154
Adult tennis	31
Tai Chi	28
Adult baseball/softball	18
Adult volleyball	17
Adult soccer	13
Adult boot camp	7
Adult ballet	6
Total	274

Other comments related to the timing of programming for adults, with requests for attention to be paid to those who would need to attend activities before the beginning of the work day or after. Multiple respondents requested that the Adult Boot Camp, with one specific request that it be scheduled early in the morning, perhaps at 6 am so people could attend. Others asked for programs to be offered during the day. Many respondents asked for more activities geared toward seniors, including exercise classes or walking groups. As one stated, “If you provide more opportunities for seniors, we will gladly come and participate!”

6. The Town is not successful in getting the message out about programmatic offerings; the Jamestown Press is.

An overwhelming number of respondents (93.1%, 350 respondents) indicated that they learned about recreational programs and special events from the Jamestown Press. The next highest response was “word of mouth” with 55.6% (209 respondents) indicating that they learned about offerings that way. The Town website and the Department’s Facebook Page only received 57 responses combined. A total of 15 respondents (4%) indicated that “I never hear about parks programs and events” and 36 respondents skipped the question entirely.

At least 15 respondents asked for more and better information in their written comments and several of them indicated that, before they saw the survey, they did not know that the Town offered as many recreation programs as it does.

7. Multiple residents identified the need for improved and expanded facilities for: cultural events/theater and bicycling, as well as an indoor swimming pool.

- a) **Cultural Events / Theater:** At the community meeting on special events and through responses to the survey, many people indicated their concerns about the lack of space for cultural activities in Town-owned facilities. The Jamestown Arts Center (JAC) was welcomed as an important addition that met some of residents’ cultural needs, but respondents clearly indicated they believed that either a new cultural arts facility was needed or the current allocation of time/space in the Recreation Center needed to be revised.
- b) **Bicycling:** At least 22 respondents expressed support for improved bicycle facilities and/or dissatisfaction with existing facilities in town. They expressed the need for adults and young people to be able to get around town and the fact that bicycling is a good way to get exercise and would also reduce parking demand. Those who ride on the existing road surfaces expressed concerns about the lack of bike lanes, despite what appear to have been years of discussion, and the quality of the road surfaces, which can make it uncomfortable and/or difficult for cyclists to ride safely. Many others, however, expressed a strong desire for bike paths to be built in town that can be used by families and individuals. Several called for the Town to prepare a bicycle plan that would help unite the north and south sides of town, and others. Other specific ideas were for a north-south bike path and a bike path that ringed the island.
- c) **Swimming Pool:** At least 7 respondents offered the suggestion that the Town build a public swimming pool. Although many were not specific regarding whether the pool should be open year round, but at least one recommended that the pool be open air in the warmer months with a roof that could be added in the winter. Most indicated that they would use the pool, while two specifically mentioned that children could/should be trained to swim.

**SECTION IV:
SURVEY RESULTS AND MEETING NOTES**

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Question 4: Identify the three public parks, beaches, playing fields, and recreational facilities that you use the most. "Other" responses included: (12 respondents)

1. Beavertail is one word
2. Dutch Island park
3. East Ferry Beach
4. East Ferry beach
5. Godena Farm and Parker Farm
6. Having Beavertail and Fort Wetherill included in the survey is misleading. These are not town parks and we have no say in changing them.
7. Lawn Ave, Tennis Courts
8. Melrose School Playground
9. Park on E. Shore Road, Westside that used to be a farm.
10. West Ferry
11. West Ferry
12. Would use country club it were available to residents.

Question 10: In the space below, please list the factors or conditions that would increase your overall use of Jamestown's recreational programs or attendance at special events (for example, different dates/times, more information, different programs, etc.): (160 respondents)

1. More programs for senior citizens
2. Maybe an orientation session of offering range of times maybe open fishing, kayaking day. BI has figured out how to make fun easy with permits for fired, easy access to beach, etc. Ft. Getty could offer more. Pavilion needs nice accessible bathrooms
3. In order for programs to be effective more attention needs to be paid to them, specifically the teen center. It is not enough to say we have this great space for our youth and then neglect/dismiss it based on gossip or rumors one may have heard. The fact is that the youth that come here are the same kids that go to our schools, etc. They should not be subjected to the politics that govern adults and the science behind adolescent development is critical.
4. Women's basketball, golf and baseball for dummies - teaching class that is for fun, maybe 4-5 weeks at a time
5. None leave it alone
6. More info, more variety
7. Nothing
8. Keep theater and arts center stuff out of rec center. These venues have other areas with private entities in town! Outside bathrooms at rec are "new" (fairly) the issue is the cleaning crew and public that cannot clean up after themselves! Has NOTHING to do with rec staff at all!
9. Didn't know many of these were available and/or some of them would have been used if they were less expensive on a better time of day. The fitness programs listed as costing in the press should have the actual dollar amount with their listing. Decreased cost of fitness programs and sports programs.
10. Expose them more! I had no idea that all of the programs listed in #12 existed with the exception of comm. theater and free sailing on Wednesday at Ft. Getty per the Jamestown press
11. Better communication, partner with local businesses and schools. better planning, create excitement, positive leadership, better organization scheduling events in advance
12. A performing arts center
13. More info given. Dates and times are always difficult to manage. One example: Visit to town by baseball coaches, etc. During the week Jamestown B.S. has their yearly summer 1 week camp - there's only 1 Boy Scout org in Jamestown! and there may be a number of scouts interested in baseball
14. Programs run by qualified people not just high school kids looking for a job
15. For residents, I would like to see a no fee use of Getty and Mackerel Cove. The use of the campground by "grandfathered" off islanders is unfair. They have a seasonal waterfront home for a relatively small fee and no consideration is given to residents. This also applies to boat slips and parking in town. I can't see many advantages to being a resident and paying high taxes.
16. Better communication of programs available, maybe a little different line-up for Sunday concerts. same groups year after year
17. Remove campers from Ft. Getty
18. Easier parking, more availability.
19. I'm not able to be here except in summer usually. Wish we could participate more
20. Parking - especially handicap parking. Accurate information town wide on dates and times of events. Comfortable seating for performances, speakers, movies
21. Earlier advertising notices

22. Outdoor amphitheater at Getty.
23. Too many areas focus use for children while Jamestown has many older active adults. There are no parks in the shores area.
24. Midafternoon, information in advance i.e. emails
25. More information, more advertisement of programs
26. Yoga - dates and times
27. Rec Dept is doing a great job! Keep it up.
28. Very hot in rec center. bathrooms need updating
29. Earlier times i.e. 6am
30. The boat ramp repair job at Ft. Getty is beautiful but we cannot put our boat in because there is not enough water for motor and boat to come out. We have to go to North Kingston or East Ferry at high tide. Poor engineering of work!! :(
31. I believe the range of what they offer is excellent! They do a great job with minimal funding. Pleasant workers!
32. Ft. Getty I would use more without trailer park
33. Better promotion of events
34. Better chaperoning at the teen center
35. Better personal schedule
36. One general location for exercise classes, yoga, pilates, etc. More available times, more use of the rec center (what do they do or use it for during the day?)
37. Better athletic facilities! Our fields and courts are embarrassing!
38. The bike path idea is a good one.
39. More information, calendar in the press
40. More in winter
41. We need new bathroom facilities at Mackerel Cove. A new or renovated facility for adult recreation would be very much appreciated. An advanced ladies tennis program would be great.
42. Sundays are great
43. If I was 30 years younger!
44. Different programs
45. Different programs in addition to current, more info
46. Between the Town's efforts and non-govt groups (NGO's) such as the young JAC, Historical society, library. There are a lot of choices of programs and events.
47. The more you clutter the open space parks/beaches/trails with organized stuff and buildings, the less appealing they will become. Passive use open space is our most valuable resource.
48. Probably better information
49. We have a wonderful community with a lot going on with many choices. Many more than we need! I would support some shifting to private sector.
50. Have tee times at golf course for town residents all times, and/or let residents go to front of the line when there is a line. We should be treated better at golf course which is supported by our taxes.
51. Parent and youth events--activities that can be done together.
52. More free time
53. Resurface the town's tennis courts
54. Ample parking! Parking is banned nearly everywhere in Jamestown.
55. My own more flexible schedule
56. Have a resident only park and beach
57. Information through internet

58. Different programs
59. When the kids of Jamestown want to go on a trip, get them out there to help raise money, make them appreciate it more by working for things, clean up around the building, do clean ups around town, help their town out, in return the town will help them. Allow NO SMOKING around the building, and do not allow them to hang around outside, and parking all over the place, make the have rules. When supplying junk food for the center, DO NOT use the town credit card at McQuades and seeing the total and say I don't care I am not paying for it, Go to BJ's and get whole sale stuff save the town Money, I was mad when that girl did that. and it was a town credit card for the rec center. if that's the case have a vending machine in there that sells stuff candy bars soda, no drinks from kids should be allowed, seen them spike drinks outside, so that's a no no.
60. More weekend programs
61. More information
62. Better, safer access by foot or bicycle. See comments below.
63. More info, a variety of dates/times?
64. More information, more advertising of the program offerings
65. If we were younger
66. Improved rec building
67. More programs for senior citizens. Special pricing for senior at Jamestown golf course.
68. Fix the road for biking, maintain tennis courts and fields
69. I believe that it may be necessary to ensure that our community center is properly staffed with talent that can help create more events and learning opportunities for children. I have no children of my own but realize the vital necessity of providing safe and enjoyable alternatives for any less-fortunate children.
70. Give the recreation professionals the resources they need so they can plan for new programs and not using most of their work day as Ft Getty reservation-takers.
71. Different programs for kids that aren't the "sporty" type. More programs for kids in the 11-13 range.
72. I would participate in more exercise programs if they were offered mid-morning when child care is easier.
73. Open space and overall improvement of aesthetics, more plants, better sand, safer parking conditions for kids, better bike access, more hiking trails, more bike access and bike trails, safety for kids...drivers whip around distracted, lights at Eldred field for night time soccer
74. When the town is seeking input from families they should consider having forums available both during the day and on weekends parents are busy and evening meetings are just plain HARD. We need a list serve so when there are ideas there is an ongoing conversation that generates ideas for all residents not just a particular constituent. Schools do not appear to be teaming up with or collaborating with Teen center this is a shame.
75. If the camps were offered at different times and if the facilities were cleaner. Also, better advertising of events. My child would have love to do that library camp for girls but just found out about it and I already have her in an off island camp that week. Sometimes I don't read the Press so utilize the Facebook page more?
76. Listed above
77. More info
78. Personal time
79. Town should have for lifeguards at M. Cover. Push boats back, no boat or paddle board launching on beaches. Enforce leash law on beaches in parks. Dogs harm wildlife.

80. Better online information.
81. It would be nice to have things at night since I work in Providence so have to commute. Also, having some programs throughout the year would be nice for the children instead of just soccer in fall and baseball in spring. I have girls that don't want to play baseball. Would love more creative things without the price tag of the JAC. With multiple children you have to think of costs.
82. Better programs for teens, adult night programs
83. More and better information.
84. More safe bike=ways, e.g., along North Road, Conanicus Ave.
85. They need more space for adult exercise programs.
86. The program supervisor and director should not be doing clerical work. There should be a recreation clerk for Ft. Getty etc....
87. It would be nice if the north end kids could ride safely to the school, beaches and parks around town. A bike path would go a long way to having healthier community members and cut back on the driving and parking congestion.
88. What I would like most in Jamestown is better surfacing on roads. My major recreation is biking - 15 to 20 miles per day. Jamestown roads have little traffic but the road surfaces are so poor, it lessens the enjoyment. Bad roads include North, Fort Getty, Summit, road by the yacht club, to mention some.
89. Different programs
90. Offer more
91. Jamestown could use a better venue for theatre or musical events. The Rec Center is not in good condition, and doesn't lend itself to being "audience" friendly.
92. Bike lane on north road! Tennis backboards
93. A north/south bike path
94. Not closing the parks, making them more secure to be alone in
95. Better Access. We need a comprehensive bike plan that will include reuniting the North End with the Recreation Rich South End via a safe bike lane or path down North Road.
96. I wish I knew more about that long list of programs in question 12! Perhaps a flyer in the press would help? Or advertise on Jamestownrecord.com and flyers posted around town. I will try to pay more attention!
97. Nothing
98. More frequency
99. More information, additional times. Hold informational meetings during the day so parents can attend without getting a babysitter!
100. More information, timing
101. Different programs
102. Better marketing, probably.
103. Better facilities for the performing arts, such as the Community Theatre, Band and Chorus.
104. See # 16 above.
105. As a Jamestown performer, I know the Rec Center is the only dedicated performance space. It lacks an adequate stage, backstage, and audience comforts. Performances, while accommodated on the schedule, often have to defer to the on-going recreational activities, Too much demand for too little space.
106. Dedicated performing arts center
107. More info. and time to plan

108. There is not a good low tide boat ramp on the island for launching or extracting a power boat. The recent work on the Ft Getty ramp seemed an utter misuse of funds as it did nothing to improve tide-related accessibility.
109. Scheduling
110. For Ft. Getty the pavilion needs a bathroom, some concerts at the Ft would be nice, anything for kids.
111. Prior notice and more information published in a timely manner. Designated resident and handicap parking availability; less crowding and traffic congestion.
112. More personal free time.
113. Reduce lyme disease improve toilets at Mackerel Cove
114. Having a calendar on the website with all events on it. Even the paper makes you hunt thru articles to find the time and place. One big calendar.
115. More programs for adults, emphasis seems to be on sports for young and adult active sports. Space has been lost - golf course. Use of Rec Center for entertainment and exercise for a variety of ages, esp older adults.
116. Tennis courts need improvements - should have a large poster with rules: Single players - 60 minutes, double players 90 - minutes. One court reserved for players. (Sat & Sun - one player arrives early and holds 3 courts)
117. Okay as is.
118. Fort Getty should be organized for multi-use year round activities.
119. Different times, I work during the day. Night or early morning (6am) yoga or pilates
120. Satisfied
121. If the Rec Center was bigger and updated. Part of our town's problem is too many people think that our programs aren't good enough so they leave Jamestown. Also, there aren't enough kids involved to make quality programs happen. We may need to hook up with some other towns so we can have competitive recreational programs.
122. More time
123. Different dates/times, options
124. Parks and rec could have a better web presence like a blog with info and pictures of past events. Usually don't find out about things until after they happen since we are not on Facebook.
125. Time and day of activities is always difficult for working families. This is not the fault of Parks and Recreation just the reality for many, but if more family-based group activities might be available on weekends that would be appreciated. It would be great to encourage full-family activities so parents and children may participate together, something like baseball/softball or basketball. (I don't need more activities with other adults, I need it with my kids doing something active away from the house that we can share in).
126. More info...different programs
127. Better facilities indoor at golf club house , toddler programs during winter and fall - organized not just open rec
128. The town currently requires proof of insurance in an amount of \$1,000,000. Many insurance companies routinely provide a maximum of \$500,000 of coverage for personal liability and the Town's requirement for \$1,000,000 can be a burden for some wanting to use a property for a 1 day event in these situations. If alcohol is involved, the requirement for \$1,000,000 is appropriate as most personal liability policies do not include alcohol vicarious liability, or negligent supervision coverage. In these cases a special event policy and certificate of insurance is appropriate for the Town. The reality is that most events are not hazardous in nature and the

- Town liability exposure from these events without alcohol is minimal when the "using party" demonstrates \$500,000 of personal liability coverage.
129. I need more awareness of what is offered - but before work 6-7:30 am might give me more options.
 130. Very early in the morning or after 6pm for those work.
 131. If I had more time
 132. Stated previously. Access to mackerel cove. Teen center.
 133. More time in personal life
 134. See above
 135. Give the recreation department more resources. Presently, two full-time employees run the entire department and Ft Getty. The recreation clerk position should be re-instated so the Rec professionals can function as Rec professionals and not clerks taking reservations, Bad move by the town administration.
 136. Maybe if you had free babysitting at things like yoga.
 137. Dates and times usually conflict with my work schedule.
 138. An overall upgrade with the Baseball facilities and regular maintenance with the same facilities.
 139. Timing with busy family limits participation 2. expense is often not necessary despite budgets, it seems that everything is not only pay to play, pay to participate but also pay and maintain to participate and by the way, it's pay to play, pay to maintain and pay to administrate to play. too much hassle to start anything. need to use the talents of the folks in town better and to make it more affordable for those with talents to use facilities. 100 dollars per hour to use the local middle school gymnasium so that a professional organization can provide a children's program???? where's the wisdom there? use of banners for letting folks know of events is helpful.
 140. I am more likely to want to swim, should we ever get a pool. I would be interested in tai chi, as well, personally. But again I emphasize that I want activities for my teen and other teens in town. It is being done very well at present. Lunch hour and after 5 times are best for adults like me. Evening and school vacation events and after school hours are best for my teen.
 141. Better advertising and calendaring system
 142. More personal time
 143. If you provide more opportunities for seniors, we will gladly come and participate!
 144. Since I often can't tell the difference between "Jamestown recreational programs" and recreational programs offered by private organizations (e.g., the Jamestown Community Band or the Jamestown Community Chorus), I cannot answer this question.
 145. Clean bathroom access
 146. More information
 147. Accessibility and flexibility in schedule. It seems the teens use the entire rec center preventing others from using the space. More Jamestown Community Theatre events, the way there used to be.
 148. Pilates course ran for 15 years, same day, same time. The ability to set a routine is important.
 149. The rec center needs to be maintained and up-dated. It's a valuable resource and should be cared for.
 150. Better maintenance
 151. More information well in advance of events. Different programs would certainly increase that chances I would attend more events. Better sound system is required for ALL outdoor events.
 152. Straighten out the free for all at Mackerel cove. Appears no one in charge other than life guards sitting in chairs all day and one parking attendant doing her summer reading

153. Earlier weekday times for fitness programs. Professional fitness instructors.
154. Knowledge and endorsements
155. Some type of on island transportation for kids who do not drive
156. Different programs,
157. Youth basketball and baseball programs need better organization/management. Basketball program needs to be converted into a league with teams. Baseball needs more structure with umpires and actual tryout period to evaluate kid's abilities.
158. I am constrained by my own schedule, not availability of fine programs
159. Adult programs during out of work hours if I knew some other people that were doing it
160. Better communication. I have never heard of many is the programs list in this survey.

Question 16: Do you think the Town should offer more recreational programs and special events? If yes, please list any particular recreation programs or special events that you would like the Town to offer in the future: (141 respondents)

1. Maybe just offer classes at more convenient times
2. More that caters to a wide variety of interests
3. More for the elderly
4. Maybe concerts at Ft Getty
5. For a small dept, the rec staff offer and support an incredible amount of activities, let the professionals do their work
6. Art classes, yoga, weekly workouts
7. People need to slow down and spend time at home with family.
8. Dodge ball, tug o war, fishing, hunting, beach volleyball, indoor volleyball, golf, homework club, computers, field trips, youth group, afterschool snacks, kite flying, skate club, farming, self-defense and karate, kickboxing, surf club, canoe, kayak, bowling, bike club, horseback riding, bird watching, cooking, arts and crafts, puppet show
9. More programs for seniors
10. The town offers a lot - i don't know if there should be more or less
11. Group exercise classes for different levels (seniors)
12. Senior exercise
13. Think we have private businesses that offer coordinated programs that will keep them in business - they include "freebie" sessions. I think we have facilities to maintain so we do need to generate money to do that, but we do not need to build or add on to - to keep the rec department employed.
14. Adult walking group
15. Exercise opportunities
16. More sailing and ocean awareness programs for children
17. More special events, fewer recreation programs. Cultural classes in farming, scuba, swimming, bird watching, fishing, gardening. Less recreation programs and more special events and non-recreational programs.
18. Teen age programs (12-16)
19. Keep farmers market. Semi-annual (spring and fall) swap meet at Getty Pavilion - community yard sale, give-away, only Jamestowners can have a booth but publicize to the world. optional for individuals, proceeds donated to a local charity or portions.
20. Running track for adults
21. More activities for young children, right now its playground
22. Zumba
23. Ball room and tango dance lessons
24. Make programs for handi-cap and seniors to meet and travel. What happened to the senior cook-out? :(
25. Rent out spots where the RV's were removed at Getty from flea market once a month. The money could go towards new showers at Ft. Getty.
26. Basic youth gymnastics - ages 4-11 possibly. Was offered years ago! an affordable youth karate possibly
27. Special events like interesting speakers would be good. Block parties in particular neighborhoods would be fun, maybe join forces with J. Historical Society?
28. More music concerts.
29. Pilates, body sculpting

30. Improve quality of programs and events
31. Nature walks would be good, so people know what plants and wildlife there seen on the assorted nature trail.
32. Pilates, better senior activities
33. Adult advance 3.5 and up tennis, sailing for adults, yoga, pilates, paddle boarding for adults.
34. Need more publicity for events. More aerobic exercises - zumba, belly dance, step, etc
35. Cooking classes for adults and children, adult lecture/seminars - finance basics, small business, senior home safety, interesting local start up business owners, parenting issues, education issues, work issues
36. Improve what you have! Your library is great, why was it not included in your survey? How about giving a workshop: "The care and feeling of generators" So many of us must fend for ourselves on how to start
37. None particularly, but I think any public events are good for the community - the addition of more is always welcome but not necessary.
38. My biggest concern is the use of the community center versus the recreation center. As a community center all ages need to be included and though I recognize the heavy use of the building it would be helpful to use the building clear of debris backstage with the lobby and restrooms clean and functioning.
39. Why couldn't yoga use the rec center?
40. The town should partner with those that make a living providing the desired service. Town should not compete with or undercut those small businesses that pay rent, mortgages, taxes, etc.
41. Nothing in particular, but to have a basketball camp for 2 hours does not help working parents. need at least 1/2 day and more full day options
42. More exercise programs/ better advertised, better timing 6-7pm
43. Adult Kayaking Youth Kayaking age 12 and up
44. More watersports at Ft. Getty
45. More sailing programs. Educational programs about fishing (how to do it, safe and environmentally sound practices, species identification, seasons ...).
46. Public summer plays - musicals, as in Westerly's Shakespeare in the Park but it must be in an area with ample parking
47. Zumba
48. Community parties Outdoor theater n dance
49. Lecture series - educational ones for adults and kids.
50. Open court indoor basketball in winter & outdoor in summer
51. Use of Ft. Getty for town events, concerts, etc. More water related activities, rentals and events. Town should consider building a public swimming pool and offering lessons. It could be used by schools, all residents, elderly for physical therapy, exercise, etc.
52. Perhaps join with other town's senior groups to provide outings.
53. Sailing classes for adults, swimming classes for adults, coordinate with library, art center, historical society
54. More family involved stuff, more things for people of all ages,
55. In expensive yoga and exercise classes
56. More boating/sailing/fishing opportunities
57. Adult exercise wt classes, yoga & meditation classes, on weekends
58. Meditation, Book club, something that 20-somethings and/or geeks can enjoy
59. Activities and recreation specifically for seniors - ie yoga, tennis, walking groups, day trips

60. weekday activities for children during winter months
61. For a small town, the rec dept covers a very wide variety of programs. well done.
62. Walking clubs to encourage social interaction and to enable participation without fear of loose dogs.
63. Return of pilates
64. It has been brought to my attention that the Jamestown Community Center is underfunded and would benefit our youth if more programs and events were established. We need more resources directed toward our children to help keep them occupied and clear of troubling realities of youth lives.
65. Fishing classes for kids/adults, outdoor photography class for kids/adults, surfing, snorkeling, scuba diving
66. More exercise classes at reasonable prices
67. Beach clean ups, mentor program, antibully, Learn to Surf/SUP camps for kids and adults, Fishing, need a bike path around island please, sidewalks everywhere
68. Lego robotics workshops Board Game nights
69. More programs for youths, exercise classes, dance. Something besides soccer and baseball. Also, bring back boot camps for adults. I would love to do a boot camp but haven't seen anything about them.
70. The Pavilion at Ft. Getty could have concerts as well as downtown. More baseball for young & old. More soccer with both young & old More Tennis with young & Old
71. Tumbling for tots Gymnastics for older children
72. Adult tai chi
73. Girl & women softball and swimming pool
74. Town should build a performing arts center at golf course. Town should give swimming lessons at beach.
75. Help Jamestown Theater, the Arts Center, and the Piano Association by providing a proper arts venue. I'm sure that people in the art, music, and theater community would contribute.
76. I would love to see more fitness classes that cater to the working parent that works off island. Also, my children did ballet with Marybeth and loved it unfortunately she stopped teaching and the program just evaporated. Also, there was a gymnastics program years ago that my oldest child enjoyed. I think we should have more programs for the kids at lower costs.
77. Lacrosse, teen basketball
78. I think there are so many rec options in this area that there is no need to expand.
79. I like everything that's been going on within the Rec Department
80. For a small recreation staff, they supervise or support an amazing number of excellent programs. Jamestowners should feel lucky to have such a dedicated staff.
81. Programs are great
82. We have many recreational opportunities to learn life sports (tennis, soccer, basketball..) but no opportunities to learn something that could actually save a life - swimming! The island needs a summer swimming program.
83. Dance classes
84. Football, softball, lacrosse, dodge ball, cheer leading, cooking.
85. Nature walks, more educational programs about the ecosystem we are enjoying living in
86. Adult Ping Pong tournaments
87. Swimming Lessons from the pier at West Ferry
88. Art show, community garden, bike path, greenway, public swimming pool
89. ethnic food festival

90. Swim lessons, rec swim, and competitive swim. Additional playground facilities in addition to the library.
91. More for seniors- bowling, movies etc
92. Beginner golf and beginner sailing for older kids and adults. There seems to be an assumption that everyone in Jamestown already knows how to do these things - even as an elementary school offering it was only Intermediate golf lessons, no beginner!
93. The Town of Jamestown needs a true Performing Arts Center with good acoustics and comfortable seating. We have so many talented groups here; the townspeople and visitors would appreciate such talent even more in the appropriate venue. Thank you.
94. Recreation activities seem plentiful enough; special events--especially cultural--are scant.
95. Youth swimming lessons
96. Fairs
97. Yoga Workout for over 50 Zumba
98. Environmental education and nature walks or tours of open spaces
99. Pilates class by Mary Beth Murphy was excellent and well attended by large group. Unfortunately there is no longer space for this
100. Shooting course, more water related activities that are affordable
101. Dog park, more indoor activities for older adults, ping pong, teazit, bridge (card game), easy exercise
102. Adult doubles tennis "club".
103. boating courses
104. Keep it simple.
105. I think we need a facility at Fort Getty where there is parking space or build up the golf house to accommodate performance or rehearsals for town events
106. Not more but be committed to changing some to keep things fresh
107. Swim lessons; Offer more adult programs at night instead of during the day for those people that work.
108. Teen center is great but recreation for younger children
109. swimming lessons at the beach, exercise classes outside, bootcamp...
110. Would like to see more weekend things for little kids when it is super cold outside. Usually we just utilize the library programming. Especially active things like an open gym or something. More family running events would be fun too. Would love to see a golf program for adults who have never ever played before.
111. While unable to think of one program in particular, I would suggest in a general way that there should always be more programs and events available to the public.
112. Adult basketball
113. Would love to see dance programs for kids and adults, maybe a mom and kid ballet session or hip hop/jazz/tap. Would like to see outdoor movies!!
114. Toddler and young children winter fall
115. The programs are fine the way they are and the staff does a great job of managing many activities.
116. better tennis programs
117. More teen activities
118. Public swimming pool
119. Continue to cater to the interests of the community with adult evening and weekend programs - adult volleyball
120. Book clubs, wine tasting clubs, more pilates classes,

121. More programs for toddler and preschoolers
122. Weaving lessons, obedience dog classes
123. More workshops on sustainable gardening and landscaping, reducing pests (deer, woodchucks, ticks, geese, and mosquitos), natural weed reduction, etc. Also, fishing classes for kids & adults. Island geology & hydrography and protecting our wells and septic.
124. Festival, music, food, food trucks. Cultural events working in conjunction with JAC Center and Theater Company. Fishing derby centered from Town as base for derby.
125. Offer what the community wants. Need to keep current, not the same old programs for generations. Bus trips to New York, or zip-lining, or skiing.
126. I would try to engage more teens in more events at the rec center that do not have costs.. or at least cost very little. It gives our kids something to do. The car wash to raise money for the Texas tragedy was helpful. The dances and day trips are invaluable. Our teen would be wandering around town with friends otherwise. That would not help our town or its citizens, as nice as our kids are.
127. Better theater and community meeting space; community pool
128. Marine science, fishing
129. As indicated, the Town needs to provide more activities for Seniors-Year Round.
130. Golf clinics
131. Music, the arts in general
132. Town rec programs should be offered to all age groups.
133. Outdoor squash courts
134. A monthly schedule of town offered events that included zumba, yoga, paddleboard lessons for beginners, etc. would be nice. I also wish we had a venue that could attract at least a few classical concerts (e.g. string quartet, choral group maybe affiliated with one of the universities.)
135. 6am boot camp early morning weekday fitness, so we can get to work
136. Not sure of what is offered now - need better publicity
137. Programs directed toward early teens who do not drive
138. More water related activities, sailing and swimming, more educational programs, partner with the library
139. I think the Town Basketball camp should be longer than just 2 hours. I think 3 hours or even 4 would be better. More sports camps would be great, like a soccer camp run by the town. A lacrosse camp would be great too. Camp should survey parents of campers to see how camp is doing. We love the Jamestown camps!
140. Kids drama, youth/family dance
141. Aerobics/body strengthening - not during the work day

Question 17: What other ideas do you have on how to improve parks and beaches in Jamestown, or the special events and recreational programs offered? (188 respondents)

1. Jamestown is beautiful for its simplicity but a few things could improve. Mackerel could be better. Parking is an issue for sure, without an easy solution. Restore outdoor showers or add a small facility. Fishing should be easier for island kids. Greens Pier is beloved for raft, boarding, etc. We need something similar for public use. Pavilion is beautiful would be great to have nice bathroom facilities for events. Don't change clubhouse at golf course.
2. Cater more to year round, lower-middle class residents and youth. Adolescence is more than a few years of turmoil and rebellion, the science needs to be understood and applied by every institution that teens are a part of. The disconnect does not foster positive outcomes and despite the best efforts of many who work with the teens it is difficult to guide when politics gets in the way. They know more than we think they do and times are way different than even a few years ago.
3. I would like to see more programs offered for tweens during summer. I would like to see a change in the summer programs. The programs offered are the same programs offered when I was a child, in the 60 and 70s. Attached is a list of programs offered by another town. Not a supporter of the teen center. In my opinion this breeds trouble. Playground program should be moved back to school for use of their activities such as kick ball and other equipment.
4. Have police get out of their cars. I would like to see police as a team patrol Taylor's Point, Potter's Cove, get out of car and walk around their presence is sorely needed. Work with volunteers to get grant money to refurbish our Ft. Wetherill Building. It is goldmine location and historical
5. I heart Billy Piva
6. Stop the witch hunt, leave the rec staff alone!
7. I think the programs and special events are phenomenal!
8. Keep things well repaired and clean. Add more trash barrels and empty them regularly. Get some public water fountains.
9. Take care of existing better.
10. The restructure of campers/RV's looks amazing. I am very happy with the cleanup and reorganization. Stop with the darn dog parks!! Since when can't they play in their own yards!!! Playground at library needs new equipment and better ground cover. Get rid of sand there are tons of wasps living there, prevents safe playtime!!
11. Improved communication from rec dept. Improved follow through by rec dept. Give Ron a raise.
12. We would support the bike path
13. Stop burying the trash at the beach every morning on the west side of the beach that just washes back in the water
14. Boat ramp needs help. Fix it.
15. If the teen center was moved to the Bank of America building and a new sports complex was built, the rec center would be a great performing arts building. I think the community could really get behind this effort. The town has taken away so many parking spaces on Narragansett and Walcott/Conanicus the past 10 years! Now I see sidewalks going in on Green Lane which will remove more parking! Community theater, community chorus, community band, men's chorus, accidental sisters, community piano, community concert series. We have the Arts Center now for visual arts but it would be a great addition to have a building for performing arts.
16. I really feel that the number one place that Jamestown falls down is on bike/walk/job path especially on the North/South roads (east shore/conanicus, North Main/Southeast). It is

- unpleasant and dangerous to bike or jog or even walk in many places. Please consider making dedicated lanes for bikers/joggers/walkers.
17. Change more for some of your recreational activities so you can hire qualified instructors, not just high school kids. You should continue to allow campers at Ft. Getty and use the funds generated to build new bathrooms and showers and to keep the grounds clean.
 18. Maintenance of community center restrooms is deplorable, overall, community center could use some help. Jamestown needs a performing arts center with parking. Golf course?
 19. Jamestown shores beach in a town beach serving the entire town. About 50% of the town population resides in the shores. More resources are needed in order to better maintain the beach. More signs along the roadway to the launch area are needed regarding the requirement of a parking permit. In considering aquaculture in the area, the needs of the people on shore for activities such as swimming, kayaking, clamming, boating, etc. need to be considered and not hindered.
 20. Keep the taxes reasonable for seniors and average people. Keeping MacCove beach groomed is difficult but that's just about the only critique if it could be groomed 2 times a day would be nice however getting the people to move is another story. thank you for reading my comments
 21. Continued maintenance of existing facilities - tennis courts, basketball courts, beach, etc.
 22. The bunkers at Ft. Wetherill are interesting and have fantastic views of the bay. If there was a lot of money, they could be turned into space for entertainment or antique markets, etc.
 23. Maintain playground at this point upgrade and fix it. Weed the playground, put down a better surface (actual sand or wood chips) Stop leaving broken toys and/or discourage the practice.
 24. Good luck! It's a great place to live and hopefully some of the suggestions can make it even better.
 25. Parking is a big issue. We would frequent island businesses more if parking were more available. Reasonably priced classes (water color, knitting, sewing, yoga, etc) at rec center or to eliminate parking issues at senior center. One place you can go (website) which lists all available activities and classes. Or, one mailing at beginning of each season (include art center, library, sr center, rec dept, tennis, golf, kayak rentals, etc) Transfer station pass should include beach pass. Beaches should be free for residents. Use senior center, rec building, or rent golf course clubhouse to tenants for special events.
 26. There is always room for improvement, but Jamestown already has a wonderful selection of parks and beaches for its size.
 27. Get rid of trailers at Ft. Getty - an eyesore in the most beautiful spot. Put a port a potty at heads beach. Cull the deer.
 28. More moorings for residents. Wait is too long. More boat ramps with nearby trailer parking. More parking, more seating everywhere. Better traffic flow after big events such as fireworks. Build a swimming pool - everyone should learn to swim. Build an auditorium with comfortable seating. No venue currently offers good seating. Over 55 recreations. Tick control to prevent more Lyme disease.
 29. Provide bike path around the island, adult recreational areas - walking/running
 30. The town desperately needs a bona fide performing arts center with dedicated space for the many performing groups in town.
 31. Remove trailers at Ft. Getty, simplify programs, lots of overlap with non & for profit organizations on island, partner with those places instead of compete.
 32. Beach parking is a problem but I believe the town has done the best they can with what they have.
 33. provide outdoor basketball courts

34. Enforce parking rules at Mackerel Cove, resident only with sticker.
35. By providing a building similar to the Ft. Getty pavilion, income can be generated from renting it for upkeep on the general grounds. Both Getty and Wetherill need a bathroom for use during events at the pavilion site.
36. The community playground should be improved and made safer by putting some treads or safety tape on some of the slats which are extremely slippery. Every time I bring my grandchildren to the park some child falls or slips on the slats.
37. Enforce parking violations at Mackerel Cove
38. We pay to live on the island part of the year, I hate being called summer residents. We do pay taxes for twelve months per year, no discount!!
39. Post speed limit signs on road to dock at Getty. Maybe set up one of those "your speed is" flashers. Raise the amount to be on waiting list for Getty. This will limit people who have been on for years and refuse spots when they become available. It would also give you a more accurate number of serious campers. Have all city council members visit in person the showers at Ft. Getty and ask if they would let their children shower there. Fix the "hole" in the street near pavilion that becomes a lake when it rains.
40. Rec building needs renovation and general maintenance. Keep country club for rec/public. Parking will always be an issue, we are a small island. I do not want to see blacktop everywhere. People need to walk! Rec staff is critical to our town programs and are very pleasant and professional and understaffed!
41. Just want to add that I don't want the town taking on any more buildings or salaries in order to expand offerings.
42. More trees in RV park at Ft. Getty, Lifeguard at Heads beach in Jamestown shores. Why are beach stickers needed at Head's Beach if it has no lifeguards? swimming lessons at Mackerel Cove for children during the summer
43. A performing arts center would be great! For choral, instrumental music and dance
44. As for the beaches, I think a stand should be allowed at Mackerel Cove for hot dogs and hamburger, etc. The only truck there is a Del's lemonade (overpriced). We need a food source! and again, better parking.
45. Tear down the country club - build a facility that can be used year round for rec, exercise, etc. Buy the land between the police station and Jack Brittain's home. Build a swimming pool that is open in the summer/spring/fall and has a cover for the winter. Parking can be across the street at the country club. Open country club to cross-country skiing in winter.
46. More street signs.
47. Dogs running free and leaving some messes are a big problem. Some people are afraid of ANY dog. Do not put animals in greater priority than people. Start considering methods of tick control. Fear of ticks is what keeps us away from many natural areas including open grass fields and walks near to woods. Deer control is part of tick control. Keep on working to erase graffiti, sets a bad atmosphere. Keep up security patrols of parking lot theft and after dark park violations.
48. Wetherill and Beavertail are fine for parking but the downtown events and Battery Day do have parking problems.
49. Park and rec dept should team up with town maintenance crew to keep beaches and parks clean. The litter corp can only accomplish so much. Trash cans, recycle cans at parks and beaches.
50. Both rec. center and golf course facility badly need renovation.

51. Trash and litter at mackerel cove is disgusting. Barrels need to be provided and emptied regularly. Barrels need to be positioned along the entire beach. Resident parking with stickers at mackerel needs to be enforced. The police won't do it. It seems to be random ticketing and how is paying for parking in the lot being enforced with no ropes or barrels. People just pull in and park. Where are the controls? No other beach town with resident parking allows parking without a sticker. We are so sick of seeing cars parked with no sticker or an expired resident sticker and the town doesn't enforce it. How much revenue is being lost. Has anyone calculated it? Enforce parking!!!
52. Dog dropping is a problem at Ft. Getty, Ft Wetherill, and East Ferry area. Bas impression of town to have to step over piles, not to mention health issue. Too many people let their dogs run loose without picking up after them.
53. Ft. Getty trailer sites should not be grandfathered and should be made available to Jamestown residents first. Boat mooring should be made available to f/t residents first and waiting lists strictly adhered to
54. Better maintenance to tennis court surfaces. If not done they will become not usable.
55. Too much emphasis on dogs. Do not want a dog park, people should walk their dogs. Should be fresh water access for boaters on West Side to fill water tanks at Ft. Getty or town dockwest ferry.
56. Build a bike path, especially on North Main Rd use Ft. Getty for concerts and art shows, add benches at Beavertail, and eliminate all the free standing signs in towns.
57. Have beach passes transferable between cars in the same resident family cars.
58. Providing benches at beavertail park and at Ft. Getty near the pavilion like the "memorial" benches at Ft. Wetherill when our mom passed away, we tried so hard to have her memorial bench placed at Ft. Wetherill but we were told the program was "closed" and there was no more room for benches - what non-sense...There is plenty of room for more benches at both Ft. Wetherill & Beavertail park. With the tick situation in Jamestown, people should not be forced to sit on the ground and benches are a good option for elderly as well, who cannot easily sit on benches
59. Please keep things as simple and passive as possible!
60. No paddle boards or any other rentals at Mackerel Cove. Use Sheffield Cove or the Ft. Getty dock but keep M. Cove for swimming only.
61. For improved access to the village by the public I would support an arrangement with the Mautgins(sic) to use their Taylor Point Boatyard for summer parking and shuttle. At the very least those cars belonging to those working in the villages should be there, that could be more than 100 cars! Or how about a park, employee parking and shuttles on the land behind post office? Could we make this a research project to weigh the positions to the community?
62. Maybe more public barbeque/beach gatherings, keeping up with garbage pickup and maintenance around beaches and parks, esp. Ft. Wetherill
63. Improve golf experience for residents. No waiting or tee times available for residents.
64. 1-kayak launch at Mackerel Cove at designated end. 2-Sailing/boating Center at Ft. Getty. 3-Renovate and expand Country Club facilities.
65. Have a full time summer college student drive a golf cart around Ft. Getty. They can organize the parking and make sure the place is kept clean. Have the traffic slow down in an out of Dutch Harbor before someone gets hurt 15MPH from marine to pier.
66. Parking is always a problem. I wish the people of Jamestown could learn to ride bikes and walk more. It's a small island. The bank of Newport site would be excellent parking. With street

- parking could be eliminated on one side of the road, and bike lanes added. Need more bike stands in town.
67. How about an old fashioned auction barn where we can sell or recycle items of value that we no longer need
 68. Try to find activities that different age groups could do together. Old learning from the young skills like twitter "the Twitter abbreviations" their dances, the young interacting with older people in something that promotes conversation.
 69. Bike paths looping island
 70. Improve Fort Getty by getting comprehensive plan and go with charrette survey majority vote. Open space
 71. Fixing stairs at beavertail
 72. One suggestion, ask the rec dept. employees to stagger their lunches so that the office is open throughout the whole day.
 73. Have more resources dedicated to maintaining the properties and gardens that we do have.
 74. Lifeguards at Shores Beach (if community wants it) Space for yoga, er could double as space for painting classes, coordinate programs with the urban
 75. While a performing arts center would be nice, I would be opposed to putting it at Ft. Getty. The rec center needs to continue to be flexible for the various and different groups who took advantage of its size and location.
 76. We need a bike path now!
 77. CLEAN them and take pride in doing it. rec people who drive the town own truck need to wear seat belt, and to tie down any trash, branches, etc that flies out of truck. So many times driving down north road and the blue rec pickup truck flies by losing trash out of his back, the truck break lights go on but they never stop.
 78. Safe bike routes and bike lockup facilities
 79. Change focus from east ferry towards Fort Getty for events
 80. Greater sampling of weekend activities
 81. Easier access and parking to public rights of way
 82. This survey ignores two primary recreational assets - bikeways and sidewalks. They are often the best way to access our parks and beaches and other recreational facilities (especially for those under 16), and they are primary recreation assets in themselves. They should be made safer than they are. Bikeways: The Town and DOT have been discussing bicycle lanes and paths for at least 15 years and not one inch has been built. This Council should be the first to actually construct one safe bikeway. Sidewalks: Many of our sidewalks are so overgrown that pedestrians must walk in the street. Landowner responsibilities in keeping their vegetation from obstructing sidewalks needs better publicity. I would like to see one Council member walk along Wolcott Avenue from High Street to Fort Wetherill Road and report back to the Council in open session how many time he or she had to step into the roadway. I hope the Town Council will encourage the Recreation Department, which already has a big job, to look beyond the facilities for which it has direct responsibility and work with other departments to maximize the recreational potential and safety of all Town (and State) assets that are used for recreation. Pedestrians and cyclists and skateboarders and runners are on our roads, maybe on their way to a Rec Dept facility; let's make it safe for them.
 83. The Rec Department does a great job. Leave them alone and let them do their jobs!!
 84. I think Jamestown does a good job as far as having things for people to do and get involved in. A lot of times "people" expect too much to be done for them and don't take enough time to develop inner resources.

85. Continue to upgrade Ft. Getty as planned. Rebuild Rec Center. Replace country club building.
86. If facilities are used/built for a designated purpose. The planning should include the proper parking as per zoning. Variances should not so frequently be made to accommodate lack of physical space for parking. These facilities then later say there's no parking available or the parking infringes on other business or residential areas
87. A performing arts center would be a very good thing - with storage space! I'm thinking of the community band.
88. Increase poison ivy control at the Battery during summer months. Increase hiking paths (the new paths at the battery are great!).
89. I have always advocated for creation of a Park and Recreation support committee, not to get in the way of the Rec department, but rather to assist and act as a conduit for new suggestions / programs. This survey is nice but it gives feedback for one specific point in time. Things continually change and a committee made up of 7-8 folks with various programmatic backgrounds to lend a voice / promote issues would be helpful. I would hope it would bring people together rather than be divisive (in terms of budget funds only going to programs x and y, rather than helping to spread funds around between programs x, y and z, etc.).
90. We need more senior activities. We have to belong to North Kingstown senior center to access programs and enjoy social activities such as art classes, zumba, etc. Jamestown needs something like this.
91. Loss of country club building for pilates was a major disappointment with no satisfactory space to replace it.
92. If Jamestown were to effectively annex Dutch Island that would open up a while range of possibilities for recreation and year long activities. Eventually something will come of this deserted island. The question is when and by who? Is prefer it remain in public hands with the town of Jamestown taking the lead. We have the resources of some very talented and creative people. Dutch island could become a self-sustained model for the future generations.
93. The foolish decision by the Town Administrator to remove the rope and barrels from Mackerel Cove will show a decrease in revenue. Lack of enforcement by police was obvious.
94. Longer hours for beach bathroom facilities. My family and I tried to use the bathroom at Mackerel Cove at 5:00 and the lifeguard said "I don't get paid for standing here after 5:00, so NO you can't use the bathroom. So they locked the bathroom door!
95. Do not do something unless it makes something more beautiful. Bike access and safety for kids is critical. I love living in Jamestown and anything we can do to encourage people to hike, bike, run, paddle, surf, SUP, soccer, tennis, basketball be healthy
96. Clean them up.
97. We need to move the rec building off the lot it is on. That property is too valuable for such a run down building. Rebuild rec center on a lesser lot. The hill is the perfect place for small park and gardens. The rec center bathrooms are the worst I have seen in a long time.
98. PROVIDE PLAYGROUND / BIKE PATH AT GODEN A FARM -
99. landowner cooperative for deer hunting
100. Bike Paths
101. Clean ocean access for swimming
102. Public hearing on boats vs. swimmers on beaches. Protect public rights of way.
103. I have to agree with some letters to the editors about renting paddleboards, kayaks at Mackerel Cove. I think the beach is too small for rentals and it takes away from the rest of us from enjoying the beach. I don't mind if people bring their own because those people know how to use and operate but I have seen on more than one occasion paddle boarders interfering with

- swimmers and the constant whistle from life guards. Mackerel Cove should be enjoyed by the residents and visitors of Jamestown. If these people want to rent SUP and kayaks go to Fort Getty or downtown where there are less swimmers.
104. Invite & open Ft. Getty to town residents without fee no permits. There is no mention of Beavertail lighthouse museum (Jamestown's most popular recreation destination)
 105. Dump all the RV's from Ft. Getty
 106. Better maintenance, better signage, more info. Available.
 107. Keep up the good work
 108. The programs beach and events are amazing I have lived elsewhere and no other towns do as much as the folks do at the Jamestown parks and recreation department do.
 109. More recreational activities for seniors
 110. see notes about biking relating to earlier question
 111. Support yoga, and provide appropriate space. Keep horses and dogs away from beaches.
 112. Bike lane on north road!
 113. Take advantage of what the private sector offers in terms of movie showings, art shows, sailing, etc and don't reinvent the wheel adding programs just because you think you should do more.
- Clean Mackerel Cove beach the weekend before Memorial Day
 114. We really need, at the very least, a north/south bike path on this island. A wider spanning path would be even better!!
 115. An around the island bike path, there are no sidewalks so walking and biking is hazardous the minute you leave town - so that is essentially the whole island.
 116. Again I have to mention that we need a bike Lane or Path along North Road so that children and those uncomfortable with being inches away from speeding automobiles can safely access the riches of town and the south end without having to hop in a car.
 117. Town purchase open space for new rec activities, play space, etc
 118. If bicycle rental is needed it should be a private business venture NOT a town venture. A private concern could rent space on town property perhaps. Same is true for sailing lessons. The important thing to do for the town is to get rid of the deer so we can safely enjoy the town properties.
 119. None
 120. Should have a town wide discussion session on Jamestown scheduled activities.
 121. More playgrounds around town (Head's Beach) and improve/create bike lanes.
 122. We need a deep water ramp to launch boats! Its impossible to launch a boat at or near low tide on Conanicut. Please help!
 123. Have a year round "Barn-boathouse" building with kitchen, bathroom for weddings, parties, etc. at Ft. Getty. Could get great income
 124. I'm pretty satisfied with the rec. dept.
 125. Provide port a johns in the winter at Ft. Getty.
 126. I think quality should be emphasized over quantity. I do think that routine maintenance has been lacking (i.e. area around tennis courts/Lawn School, playground, Fort Getty restrooms). I feel that there are plenty of recreational opportunities for citizens but the classes could be better promoted.
 127. Providing a facility in the downtown area that would be more friendly for the Performing arts - large groups, with comfortable seating, a stage with decent acoustics, and possibly dressing rooms and storage is greatly needed in this town. We have a large percentage of people who have a strong, active interest in this area and we do not have the facilities.
 128. See #16 above. thank you.

129. If the Rec Dep't put out a call to Jamestown performing and arts groups, I feel sure a strong committee could be formed to develop a plan for a performance space.
130. Dedicated performing arts center more efficient use of rec center current building is underutilized and nearing the end of its useful life.
131. Since we live by & frequent Heads Beach the most it would be nice if it could be maintained better and possibly even improved. It's kind of mediocre and could be so much better. Right of Way access is also on the top of my family's list. Seems that the Right of Ways are not maintained properly to allow access to the water. it makes it seem as though we're trespassing.
132. Address tick problem
133. Keep them pristine and not over-commercializing.
134. We need MUCH better spaces for cultural events. Jamestown Arts Center has good visual arts. They present cultural programs -- in a very inadequate space. The Rec Center stage is abysmal for theater productions. There is no public space appropriate for recitals of instruments and singers or for dance programs. Meeting spaces for groups are very limited. School spaces should be used much more while maintaining security and safety of premises. There's much more to recreation than beaches and parks.
135. I gather the dredging process at the boat ramp/Ft. Getty is regarded as environmentally sensitive, but it is difficult to grasp why such an effort would be particularly damaging. Eel grass? Now, really...modest and limited dredging could hardly have substantive impact upon the ecosystem in that area.
136. Enlarge the skate park, buy more open space.
137. Limiting number of vehicles, crowds, and the over-usage of our town facilities and fragile natural resources. Improve care, maintenance, and preservation of our beaches and coastal parks. Collect visitor fees and parking fees from non-residents.
138. Bike paths, beach maintenance
139. Repair what we currently have and provide more rec opportunities for kids
140. I have been very pleased with the recreation programs and the participation of everyone involved.
141. Keep boats out of swimming areas
142. It seems we have plenty to attract tourists which one presumes you want to do but no attempt to make facilities usable in all seasons or to advertise for wedding venues (FT Getty & Beavertail are fabulous, but not usable and pretty enough). No attempt to suggest caterers would/could provide food at those places. While JTN complains we would take business away if the trailers were restricted, none of those businesses consider expanding outside of the island in any way. Ads, signs, more attractive exterior, more readymade food, etc.
143. Indoor space seems very limited. Get rid of poison ivy, it is super abundant and spreading. What I want the most: dog park, dog agility classes/events, offer bridge, ping pong
144. Jamestown should have town moorings to rent for revenue, more dingy docking to access your mooring, parking is out of control, especially at the beaches
145. Jamestown is a lovely community deserving of a more attractive and clean community center. Given its prominent location, it should be the town's showcase for art, theatre and other activities. It needs major renovation. As a resident, I'm embarrassed as to the condition of restrooms which are used by residents and tourists alike.
146. Raise the road behind Mackerel Cove so that the bay water can run through to Sheffield Cove. It is a question of economy.
147. Dog on leash only, no dogs or animals on beaches, more programs for seniors

- 1) Add kitchen facilities to rec. center so the center can be used for functions (income generating) 2) There are already huge resources available in art center, the rec center should really partner with what exists to maximize opportunities. What if organization like the JAC could apply for a grant to offset costs to attend workshops? 3) Have a program that brings kids from city 4) I applaud the consistent effort made to give healthy opportunities for our youth - a very important role
148. Bike path on North Road
149. Ticket nonresidents or people who are illegally parked at the beach. Employ more seasonal people to take care of all the facilities in the town, not just forgetting. Also, update and regularly maintain the field at the school. They are a mess! We are an affluent town and it looks like we are not when you look at those facilities. It's embarrassing.
150. Raise the non-resident rate at mackerel. Heard large groups of out of towners calling it the "bargain" beach compared to other local beaches. Leads to poor parking and overcrowding. Large accessible bike racks at local parks could encourage riding. Maybe family bike nights or similar? A Jamestown bikes day once a month? Just to remind people to slow down and be aware of bikers and pedestrians.
151. Jamestown Summer Camp could use some more creative ways to keep kids engaged. My kids don't want to go because they think it is boring. Maybe hold it at the playground?
152. Fix golf course building for special event rentals weddings, birthdays, anniversary parties etc
153. Not sure if this pertains, but I am concerned with erosion at Beavertail Park. I love sharing this park with all and I am pleased to see the number of people that utilized this wonderful place, but the foot traffic along the southern most section is really starting to show. Clearly storm erosion/wave action does not help. In 30-50 years will the lighthouse need to be moved back? Should the road way in front of the lighthouse be eliminated?
154. Rec staff already to a great deal of work and are given little resources.
155. Until all of the existing parks, trails, playgrounds and ball fields can be regularly maintained at a high level I see no point in adding new parks or facilities.
156. Get a bike path completed. Aquidneck Island made it happen. Expand the teen center and keep mackerel cove easy to use for residents
157. Year round trash cans and litter bags, speed enforcement in parks, speed bumps at Fort Wetherill and other parks
158. Things are excellent now. Leave it alone!!
159. Make beaches and shoreline more safe, clean, and accessible
160. It would be great if we had a community swimming pool where kids could take Red Cross certified swimming lessons! The playground near the library needs to be better maintained!
161. Before you take on more, take care of what you have. The upkeep of current green space is poor.
162. Clear paths to public access areas and build a covered picnic area at Ft. Wetherill with grills, offer guided canoe/kayak excursions (bring your own or rent, but guided educational tours to learn more about the flora/fauna/geology/history.)
163. Let us upgrade what we have b/4 we build anew.
164. Explained earlier.
165. Attention to detail with maintenance of grounds and recreational facilities. Need good supervision!
166. A swimming pool would be very valuable. Increased support of the rec center for teens is very valuable. We do not need a concert hall.
167. community calendar and community pool

168. I am pleased with them now.
169. Town does a good job with special events and rec programs. The town needs to determine how to deal with new "fads or trends" and do we need (can we afford monetarily or physically) a program or field or venue for all of the new trends emerging every couple of years?
170. Small tax on home sales to create a fund to purchase property downtown for parking.
171. There are very few programs for seniors. We have wonderful programs for teens but provide little/or no programs for seniors.
172. I care less about the parks and beaches than about meeting and practice space inside, which if it doesn't come under the recreation department has to be considered by some department in the town. There is less public interior space available now (certainly per capita) than at any time in the history of Jamestown. The town needs to reach out to community organizations that sponsor events and to provide (or at least make available at nominal cost) facilities for these events. Expanding the Rec Center is not a good solution. The calendar there is already too crowded and adding more room in the center of town will aggravate an already sketchy parking situation. Comment: I was unable to determine why certain events were listed in question 11 and others were not. E.g., Battery Day is co-sponsored by the town and the JHS and is certainly in a town facility - which seems to be one criterion for including the Jamestown Theatre. Why was the Men's Chorus listed and not the Community Chorus?
173. Nice bathroom even the portable kind that is on a trailer at Town Beach
174. It would be very good to have the golf club building improved in order to allow town organizations to have meetings and special events. We are in great need of a nice place to have programs and exhibits that would appeal to townspeople and people from other towns.
175. These programs build community and should be expanded. Their use should be encouraged.
176. Keep all town recreational facilities maintained
177. We need visionary leadership and someone who has experience working with parks and recreation programs for all ages and abilities. We need someone who envisions the island's resources as a complete and integrated package of offerings. We have to have someone who understands maintenance of buildings, land and facilities. We also should consider better use of our school's athletic resources as part of this process.
178. Charge per person to walk on beach. Use fees to actually clean the whole beach. Abolish teen center and all its employees. Offer free memberships to private gyms to all teens.
179. Maintain the baseball fields
180. A walking / jogging track around one of the ball fields.
181. Deal with all the broken down concrete bunkers, etc. these are centers for graffiti, crime, etc and just generally dangerous and ugly
182. Make use of the old highway barn but not for aquaculture.
183. Wintertime activities
184. A public swimming pool would allow all of our youngsters to learn to swim. It would also be a great asset for the older population. It is the best way to recover after surgery or a fall. Just a great way to stay in shape. I suspect we could raise funds in Jamestown for this idea. Many people would support if the load was spread.
185. Tree maintenance - control the vines that are destroying the trees in the parks
186. Thinking about how people access the water: right of ways etc and providing places to park
187. None
188. Jamestown needs a year round swimming pool. Perhaps the building in Fort Wetherill might serve that use.

Meeting Notes: Special Events, Arts and Culture Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Arts & Culture

- Enrich life
- Schools have less activities
- Appreciate aesthetics
 - artists, musicians
- Brings community together
- Also parades
- Allow young people to break out of shell
- Not to many activities for youth outside of sports
- Cross generational
- Meet new people – crosses boundaries (changing population)
- Navy families, retirees, fewer children, 2nd homeowners
- Economic opportunity – support local businesses
- Inclusion
- Quirky/creative
- Mayberry RFD
- Who in town offices is creating/encouraging new events, cultural activity? –comes from community today

Events & Activities

Retirees

- Volunteer activities/boards (local and outside)
 - Speakers
 - Movies
 - Fitness for adults/seniors (town vs. private)
 - Need to address transportation
- *How not to duplicate what private sector is doing? Or other organizations doing well?

Space Issues

- Beautification of Rec Center; maintenance, make more welcoming
- What is the teen center? How much of the building? What hours? How many people use?
- Do kids come from off the island to the Rec Center?
- Payment required for some programs to use space
- “Community” vs. “Recreation” center
- Activities get bumped
- Need calendar of when space is booked

- Rec should get groups together to plan year
- School – costly to use
- Loss of 2nd floor impacted programs
- Make sure gets used frequently by calendar
- How to prioritize who uses? What are criteria?

Future Space

- Community pool
- Tiered space – auditorium
- Multi-purpose room; dinner theatre, weddings
- Schools?
- Sailing center
- Tiered theatre – friendly (black box)

Meeting Notes: Recreational Services for Adults and Seniors Tuesday, July 30, 2013

Current Programs

- Not known by everyone
 - How is the message getting out? (most people read Jamestown Press)
- How to reach out to seniors?
- Transportation? How to use van?
- Building, former Grange Hall (99 year lease)
 - Hall, kitchen for meals on wheels
 - new roof
 - VFW headquarters
 - Church uses Sundays, boyscouts, yoga? (couldn't read a note next to this line)

Senior Center (future)

- Meals, periodic fancy meals
- Events/functions
 - Halloween, fireworks, dancing, movies, entertainment (research restrictions on alcohol)
- Speakers
- Attractive building/landscaping
- Support from out of town society
- Open more hours per day
- Transportation to and from
- Social meeting place
- Community breakfasts
- Partnership with Newport and Kingstown, Portsmouth, Middletown

How to get younger adults to participate?

- Adult basketball
- Adult softball
- Jamestown sailing race (Tuesday nights) would be popular
- Concerts (very popular)
- People don't know about adult programs
 - How to use website? Boards on corners?

Parks & Facilities

- Easily accessible
- Parking available
- Ferry goes to Ft. Adams for concerts
- Scuba diving at Ft. Wetherill (water access, beautiful terrain to see)
- Beavertail Lighthouse
 - Beach & parking

- Ft. Getty – well maintained
- Water!! Kayaking, shell fishing, boating, fishing
- Businesses that rent equipment
- Golf course

Facility Improvements

- Parking
 - Limited at beach, close to residential
- Water access
 - Not always parking near where want to drop boat/kayak
- 2nd floor of golf course closed
- More lectures
- Events at library are packed
- New art center has great activities/shows
- Adult athletic programs
 - yoga & fitness
- Need place for:
 - adult athletics with storage
 - Stage/theatre,
 - Field house – gym, theatre, swimming pool, new rec center?
 - Movie house and outdoor movies in summer

Meeting Notes: Recreational Services for Youth and Teens Tuesday, August 6, 2013

Teen Center

- Mentoring
- Activities – volunteering, bake sale, holiday helper, car wash, behavior agreement
- Drop-in - welcoming, include everyone, kids need to get to know each other
- Trips – block island, six flags, baseball games, Lake Compounce, CT, NH, beach
- Safety – parents know where kids are
- Teen planning board – leadership (AMPT), coordinate events, hold meetings (Tuesdays), get donations & budget
- Know what is going on in community, can find interesting programs
- Social programs – bullying, diversity, invisible children
- 10-15 kids, right after school is busy, then settles down, separate night for junior and high school
- Dances,
 - Overnight lock-ins
 - Chaperones, police to check,
 - No ins and outs at dance or lock-in
- Job referral (formal & informal)
 - help families in town
 - helps get first job reference
 - Newport City Youth Center job readiness program (8 kids)
 - Litter corps – 20 hours/week, 6 weeks

Teen Center Feedback (improvements needed)

- Facilities- more space? Accommodate more kids
- Gym is important space, when not available, attendance is lower
- Computers not working so well
- Tutor
- Swipe cards
- 7 doors to building

Programs

- Theater – extremely positive, people of different ages, comfortable with speaking and being on stage, part for every kid that tries out
- Summer camp – organized, ½ half day

Parks & Facilities

- Easily accessible
- Parking available
- Ferry goes to Ft. Adams for concerts
- Scuba diving at Ft. Wetherill (water access, beautiful terrain to see)
- Beavertail Lighthouse
 - Beach & parking
- Ft. Getty – well maintained

- Water!! Kayaking, shell fishing, boating, fishing
- Businesses that rent equipment
- Golf course

Facilities Feedback (improvements needed)

- Parking
 - Limited at beach, close to residential
- Water access
 - Not always parking near where want to drop boat/kayak
- 2nd floor of golf course closed
- More lectures
- Events at library are packed
- New art center has great activities/shows
- Adult athletic programs
 - yoga & fitness
- Need place for:
 - adult athletics with storage
 - Stage/theatre,
 - Field house – gym, theatre, swimming pool, new rec center?
 - Movie house and outdoor movies in summer

Programs

- Theatre – extremely positive
 - People of different ages, comfortable with speaking and being on stage, part for every kid that tries out
- Summer camp – organized ½ day. Open rec evenings for older youth

Programs Feedback (improvements needed)

- Need bike path (separates into 2 areas)
- Winter activities for Bridges (adults with disabilities) (space issue)
- Communications – didn't know about all programs
- More for young adults
 - technology group
- Intro to golfing class
- Less athletic activities
 - croquet, craft group, games, movies, youth golf, water balloons

Facilities/Parks

- Mackerel Cove
 - parking needed, 15/day for residents, natural area
- Playground at library
 - difficulty with ADA access in town
 - What about older kids?
 - wasp nest
 - swings missing
- Tennis – well-maintained (no lights)

Facilities Feedback (improvements needed)

- Driving range
- Bowling alley
- Pool
- Skating rink
- Another facility theater
- outdoor amphitheater
- Bike path (in town and on bridge)
- Bike rentals
- Sailing center
- Lighthouse
 - Conanicut Battery* needs more signage
 - reenactments more often
 - walking trails on *Conanicut* Island
- Water activities
 - more storage at Sheffield Cove
 - parking
 - relationship between board activities and swimmers
- Shuttle service – in lieu of cars
 - limited bus service – off island
 - No circulator on island
- Pedicab service
- Bike lanes

Ft. Getty

- Power issues
- New layout is positive
- Boat ramp not deep enough
- Pavilion is awesome
- Car show
- Good to have attendant (gatehouse)
- Needs better bathrooms – closer to pavilion
- more use could be made

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management in the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston was established in 2008 to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of all levels of government. The Center is funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and through fees charged for its services.



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