

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PARKS AND RECREATION SUMMER 2020**

It is with much regret, that the Berlin Parks and Recreation Department is announcing that there will be no Summer Fun Program or Olympics Week this summer. We also regretfully have decided not to open Percival Pool or Demore, Dinda, Bittner Jr. Memorial Pool. This includes swim lessons and swim team. At this time, The Town feels this is the best decision to ensure the safety of our residents.

We have been in consultation with the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association, the Central Connecticut Health District, the Governor's State Public Safety Committees, and our own administration. The result is that the virus is still too difficult to control. The guidelines set in place by state organizations would drastically limit the number of participants we would be able to register and even with those participants, there are major limitations on what can be offered. Opening the pools proves very challenging due to the social distancing guidelines as well as the sanitation guidelines.

The Parks and Recreation Department is already working on alternative programming on a virtual level, as well as offering some of our existing programs virtually and more information about that will be on our Town Website as it becomes available. We are working in conjunction with other towns in our district to try to create more offerings as well to your families. The Department is also still hopeful to run some of our other programs safely in the later part of the summer. Please continue to check our website for updates.

This summer may be different from others, but we assure you that the Parks and Recreation Department will work diligently to find as many programs as possible to offer that allow for social distancing, follow guidelines and are a safe experience for our residents. Stay safe and stay healthy!