

# RECREATION COMMISSION

## Town of Sandown, NH

### Recreation Commission

**Meeting Date:** November 1, 2023

**Meeting Location:** Rec Building

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**Members Present:** Heidi Dyer, Chris Longchamps, Ben Sharpe

**Also Present:** Becky Francis, Recreation Director

**Members Not Present:** Chairman George Blaisdell; Darren Hudgins, ex officio

Meeting was called to order by Dyer at 6:38pm.

***Members agreed they were unable to accept minutes from the previous meeting, but noted to amend the date from September 20, 2023 to October 18, 2023.***

***Discussion of new business begins.***

### Festival of Trees

Erica Olsen joined Francis in sharing their idea of a Festival of Trees event. Olsen said that since the tree lighting event at the Town Hall is not happening because of construction, she is suggesting hosting a festival of trees event at the rec building where the community sponsors and decorates a Christmas tree to be raffled or entered into a silent auction. Francis said the event is weather-dependent because it will be outdoors. Members discussed powering the trees, such as using generators, and where they could donate the money earned from the event, such as the food pantry. Dyer suggested raffling other items, such as wreaths, and having businesses donate gift cards. Sharpe suggested emphasizing the Santa visit and seeing how the trees do for this year. Members gave consensus to move forward with the event, and discussed the possibility of getting trees in bulk, and cohosting the event with the Sandown Lions.

***Erica Olsen left meeting.***

### Monster Mash Final Update

Francis said the event went well. She said only one food truck showed up but they are willing to come back next year, and around 80 families attended. Francis said the games went well and she has heard only good feedback.

### Senior Luncheon Update

Francis updated that the Senior Luncheon at Zorvino Vineyards is next Wednesday, and there are 4 spots left. Francis asked for help with the event, such as doing registration, and Longchamps offered to help. There will be live music, and the approximate total cost of \$3,700.00 will be paid at the event. Sharpe asked when the Senior Luncheon started and why they pay for it, and members agreed that they did not know when the event originated, and said they have paid for the event as long as they knew of it.

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**Final Review of 2024 Budget**

Francis said this is the last time members will look at the budget before submitting it, and changed the equipment maintenance line and the mowing line. Members discussed the issue of the lifeguard budget, and how they weren't able to get enough lifeguards to use the budgeted money. Members also discussed specific budget items such as ball field, field maintenance, and transportation. Sharpe asked why the budget doesn't show revenue for Parks and Rec, and Francis said it goes into the revolving fund. Sharpe explained that its difficult because the public can't see where the money is going, and members agreed to have Gayle write something up for them to clearly explain it, and plan to go before Selectmen on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

***Discussion of old business begins.***

**Miller Field Equipment**

Francis said she met with the playground equipment company and a representative is meeting her at the playground tomorrow. Francis said she thinks the backhoe toy will be a great addition to the Miller playground and is only slightly above the budget, and can use money from the revolving account to pay the remainder. Members discussed whether they can pull money from the revolving account, and Sharpe reminded to also find out installation costs, and Francis said she would get back to them.

**Upcoming Programming**

***Newport, Rhode Island Bus Trip – Tuesday, December 5th***

Bus trip to the Breakers mansion. 7:00am – 6:00pm. Includes a tour of the Breakers and a gourmet lunch at the Hotel Viking. Cost is \$80 per person for residents, and \$88 for non-residents. Sign up by November 24<sup>th</sup>.

***Ornament Decorating – Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup>***

\$2 per ornament. 3:00pm – 5:00pm

***Wreath Decorating – Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>***

2 sessions, 10:00am – 2:00pm & 3:00pm – 7:00pm. All items are provided for decorating.

***Paint Night – Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>***

\$30 per person. 5:10pm – 8:00pm

***Turkey Hunt – November 18th***

Participants follow riddles to find 10 turkeys around Sandown.

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**Pump Shed Floor Update**

Dyer asked about a quote for the water pump shed floor to be repaired. Francis said she hasn't gotten to it yet, but the lines are being blown this week and she can look into it once that is done. Sharpe asked if the shed door can be looked at, as well.

**Lifeguard Chair Removal**

Francis said that lifeguard chairs still have to be taken in, but will get to it as soon as possible.

**Christmas Tree Buring Event**

Dyer asked about the permit from the Fire Chief for the Christmas tree burning event. Francis said it depends whether there is snow or not. Dyer suggested getting a permit just to be safe. Members discussed the tentative event date of January 6<sup>th</sup>, and whether to invite Conservation to cohost the event.

Sharpe made a motion to adjourn.

***Motion By:*** Sharpe

***Seconded By:*** Longchamps

***In Favor:*** All

***Motion passes unanimously.***

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2023.

**Submitted By:**

*Jessica Manning*

Jessica Manning

Recording Secretary