

SANDOWN RECREATION COMMISSION

Town of Sandown, NH

Meeting Date: January 11, 2022

Meeting Location: Recreation Building

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Members Present: George Blaisdell, Chairman; Heidi Dyer; John Donahue; Chris Longchamps

Also Present: Lynne Blaisdell, Town Administrator

Members Not Present: Darren Hudgins, ex officio

Meeting called to order by Chairman George Blaisdell at 6:30pm.

Chairman Blaisdell made a motion to accept minutes as written from October 13, 2021.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: Blaisdell, Dyer

Abstain: Longchamps, Donahue

Chairman Blaisdell made a motion to accept non-public minutes as written from November 3, 2021.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: All

Donahue made a motion to accept minutes as written from December 15, 2021.

Motion By: Donahue

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: Dyer, Blaisdell, Donahue

Abstain: Longchamps

Discussion of new business begins.

Members discussed parting ways with former Recreation Director, Deb Brown.

Sandown Recreation Facebook Page

Members removed former Recreation Director from the Sandown Recreation Facebook page, and created a new password. Additionally, Dyer and Longchamps were added as Admins to the page.

Lynne encouraged members to post recreation events to Sandown Recreation Facebook page instead of to Sandown Community Facebook page.

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January Calendar

Lynne said she hopes to keep activities happening through the transition of a new Recreation Director. Lynne said she will be booking events using the calendar for all rentals, activities, and events, allowing anyone who references the calendar to be certain what time slots are booked. Booking a slot in the calendar was expressed as being as simple as entering an appointment into a phone calendar.

Regarding 60+ group, custodians may be able to open recreation building, as long as someone confirms that they locked it after they leave. Custodians are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month, but will not be doing January and February due to Covid. They are still considering March. Lynne said she reached out to many groups to still use same contact info (email & phone). Lynne said she attempted to contact Michelle's Creative Expressions regarding a Kid's Craft event, but had not heard back.

Discussion of a non-gambling Superbowl football squares event, with a possible entry "fee" of a donation to the food pantry. Donahue volunteered to create the squares and provide prizes at no cost to the Rec Department, and food donations will be left at Town Hall.

Community Survey

Chairman Blaisdell suggested having open house or movie night to survey what residents want to see from Recreation in the future. Also suggested having early sign-up for summer recreation program. Lynne said she will reach out to Mike and Casey about the summer program and plans to invite them to a Recreation meeting or meet in a smaller group if they prefer.

February Vacation Camp

Members discussed options for upcoming February vacation camp. Possible "drop-in" option, providing games and puzzles. Lynne suggested reaching out to Mike and Casey for availability and ideas.

New Recreation Director

Members agree to post ad for new Recreation Director as soon as possible. Members discussed official job description, and desired certifications and qualifications. Changed education requirement to "high school diploma or equivalent" and will allow safety certifications (first aid, CPR, etc.) to be acquired after they are hired. Ad will be posted on Sandown website, NH Municipal Association, and an abbreviated version for newspaper, Indeed website, Channel 17, and Sandown Community Facebook page. Dyer said she will try to get ad to Lynne by the end of the week.

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Online Payment

Members discussed ability and options to receive payments online for booking events and programs. Dyer expressed her support for the ease of use of software package. Donahue suggested using Weebly website creator, which he is very familiar with. He offered to bring his laptop to the next meeting to show members.

Scholarship Fund

Open mic night requested for 3/5/22 for a fundraiser scholarship program for Timberlane Highschool & surrounding areas for collegiate football and music fields. They requested Town Hall, but because of voting, they cannot accommodate. They have asked to use recreation building. Lynne suggested waiving rental fee since they have always done that at Town Hall.

Donahue made a motion to waive rental fee for open mic night for scholarship program.

Motion By: Donahue

Seconded By: Blaisdell

In Favor: All

Miller Field

Donahue asked if he could hang a "Registration Open" banner on the sign at Miller Field. Chairman Blaisdell said yes. Donahue said he is producing the banner and will remove it when registration is closed. Donahue also shared that behind home plate on B field slopes dangerously, and there are holes on A field. Blaisdell agreed that if it is a safety issue, then the Recreation Commission should address it. Lynne said that Eversource is looking to cut trees at Miller Field, which may end up widening the road slightly. Donahue also said the snack shack will be cleaned out.

Discussion of business from previous meetings begins.

Holiday Lights Contest

Members agreed to judge contest next year. Lynne said winners picked up gift cards at Town Hall.

Recreation Building Maintenance

Chairman Blaisdell suggested the town hiring one company to maintain smoke detectors in all town buildings. Members agreed. Lynne said she would schedule building maintenance, as long as department head directed her as to what maintenance the building needs.

PO Box

Members agreed to have recreation mail be sent to Town Hall, instead of using PO Box.

RSA's

Lynne gave members all RSA's, bylaws and article from 2010 about understand Rec revolving fund.

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153 Next meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2022.
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155 Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.
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162 **Submitted By:**
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169 Jessica Manning
170 Recording Secretary