

# RECREATION COMMISSION

## Town of Sandown, NH

**Meeting Date:** 3/23/2022

**Meeting Location:** Rec Building

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**Members Present:** Chairman George Blaisdell; John Donahue; Heidi Dyer; Darren Hudgins, ex officio; Chris Longchamps

**Also Present:** Lynne Blaisdell, Town Administrator

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Blaisdell at 6:45pm.

Donahue made a motion to accept minutes as written from 3/9/2022.

**Motion By:** Donahue

**Seconded By:** Dyer

**In Favor:** Chairman Blaisdell, Donahue, Hudgins, Dyer

**Abstain:** Longchamps

**Motion passes 4-0-1.**

Donahue made a motion to accept non-public minutes, regarding Mike & Casey employee matters, as written from 3/9/2022.

**Motion By:** Donahue

**Seconded By:** Hudgins

**In Favor:** Chairman Blaisdell, Donahue, Hudgins, Dyer

**Abstain:** Longchamps

**Motion passes 4-0-1.**

Donahue made a motion to accept non-public minutes, regarding Nicholas Silvestro interview for Rec Director position, as written from 3/9/2022.

**Motion By:** Donahue

**Seconded By:** Hudgins

**In Favor:** Chairman Blaisdell, Donahue, Hudgins, Dyer

**Abstain:** Longchamps

**Motion passes 4-0-1.**

**Discussion of new business begins.**

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### **Timberlane Youth Soccer League**

Lynne gave an update regarding Timberlane soccer program. She said that she had been in contact with Erica Lundin, President of TYSL (Timberlane Youth Soccer League.) A coaches meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2022 at the Town Hall. Coaches will be told to now contact Rec Department to use fields and make sure they are available. Lynne said she has a call into Pete's Toilet Rentals about renting a porta-potty, cleaning schedules, etc. Members discussed how often porta-potties were cleaned last year and agreed that they need to be cleaned more frequently this year.

Lynne said the mowers asked for a soccer and baseball schedule to avoid conflicts of mowing and lining the fields. The mower requested that any lines be painted after 3pm, since he does not work past that time. TYSL requested that they be notified each time for lining fields, but Lynne said that would not be possible. Lynne suggested telling them to line the fields after 3pm, and ask that they notify the Rec Department.

Lynne said Spring season starts April 23, 2022, and runs for 9 weeks, excluding Memorial Day Weekend. Fall season is September 10, 2022, and runs for 9 weeks, excluding Columbus Day Weekend.

### **Field Condition – Spring Sports**

Lynne updated members that CBC will be doing dethatching and will update Rec Commission as far as field conditions. He was asking if they had 24 or 26 cuts for this year. Chairman Blaisdell said he thinks the contract is for 24 cuts, and if they need extra then they are charged for them.

Members discussed issues with sprinklers at Miller Field. Donahue expressed concern for Field B having a drop-off behind home plate that he feels is unsafe. He said the baseball league will take care of it and volunteers will make it safe for use again. Lynne requested baseball schedule from Donahue when it's available.

Chairman Blaisdell said he has been in contact with Petra Paving about scheduling someone to put down gravel once trees are removed for extra parking at Miller Field. He said they could assess the area and give a price. Members also discussed stump removal.

### **Non-Public Discussion**

Chairman Blaisdell made a motion to enter non-public.

**Motion By:** Donahue

**Seconded By:** Hudgins

**In Favor:** All

**Motion passes unanimously.**

***Non-public portion of meeting takes place.***

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Chairman Blaisdell made a motion to recommend Rebecca Thompson for Recreation Director, at \$22.50 per hour, pending background check.

**Motion By:** Donahue

**Seconded By:** Hudgins

**In Favor:** All

**Motion passes unanimously.**

***Discussion of business from previous meetings begins.***

### **Summer Rec Parent Handbook**

Dyer revised the Summer Rec Program handbook, and has asked Mike and Casey for their approval to make sure nothing was missed. Members discussed changes to handbook.

Members discussed age eligibility for Counselors in Training (CITs). Dyer said CITs are based on age, not grade, to ensure that all applying Counselors are 16 years old. After researching, Dyer found that CIT age requirement varies, and can differ based on whether CITs are seen as volunteers or employed. Dyer suggested using June 1<sup>st</sup> as a cut-off date for ages of potential CITs vs. the previous cut-off date of September 30<sup>th</sup>. Lynne said she spoke with Greg Bisson, Exeter Rec Director and Sandown resident, who strongly recommended that no CITs should be under age 15. Members discussed how this would affect junior CITs. Dyer suggested leaving current September 30<sup>th</sup> cut-off date for this year and change to June 1<sup>st</sup> cut-off next year, while Longchamps felt that would exclude too many 10<sup>th</sup> graders.

Dyer hopes to improve communication with parents by using Facebook more often, but also suggested recording a daily voicemail on the Rec phone of updates, such as holding activities in Town Hall because of rain. Lynne said Summer Rec Program staff are asking for a Summer Rec phone that parents can call or text. Lynne suggested looking into a Tracfone.

Members discussed changing to a flat weekly rate for Summer Rec, and agreed that the cost will be \$140 per week for residents and \$150 per week for non-residents, with additional fee for major field trips, such as Canobie Lake Park and Water Country.

### **Babysitting Course**

Dyer updated members that Babysitting Course can't happen over April vacation because Dyer is unavailable. Dyer also explained that the cost for participants to complete Red Cross course is upwards of \$150, but she couldn't find trainer to do a class, but did offer to do the 4-H Babysitter Training Course, which would include 5 classes. The 4-H course requires another adult volunteer to be present. Members discussed having new Recreation Director as second adult volunteer. The 4-H babysitting program recommends the course for ages 11-15 years old, but members discussed what ages they would offer the class to. The 4-H program is to receive a certificate of participation in the babysitting course. It does not certify participants in first aid or CPR. Members discussed having a second course available to participants where they could become certified in first aid and CPR for an additional cost.

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154 **Miller Field Sign**

155 Lynne spoke with a man from ProSource Signs, who installed the sign originally, to get his opinion  
156 of what had to be replaced and/or repaired. He said the vinyl sleeve and brackets that hold sign in  
157 place need to be replaced. Lynne asked for a quote, and will schedule repairs when she receives the  
158 quote. Chairman Blaisdell requested that a different Milled Field sign that was previously hit, but is  
159 still useable, be placed at A-Field.  
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162 ***Dyer brought her computer and showed members Rec Desk software.***  
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165 Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.  
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174 **Submitted By:**  
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180 Jessica Manning  
181 Recording Secretary