

RECREATION COMMISSION

Town of Sandown, NH

Meeting Date: 4/6/2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 1 of 3

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

Also Present: Lynne Blaisdell, Town Administrator; Becky Thompson, Rec Director

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

Members discussed minutes from 3/23/2022 and agreed to change non-resident summer program weekly cost from \$150 per week to \$160 per week.

Hudgins made a motion to accept minutes as amended from 3/23/2022.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Donahue

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Hudgins made a motion to accept non-public minutes from 3/23/2022.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Blaisdell

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Discussion of new business begins.

Members welcomed Becky Thompson, new Recreation Director.

Rec Desk Software

Dyer said the quote for one year of Rec Desk software is \$3,400. Donahue said he had a previous quote that was facilitated through Deb that was \$2,500, and would look back to find the email. Dyer said the first two months are free, and offers training and space for sponsorship logos. Dyer said \$7,000 worth of donations have come in for Rec so far in 2022, and this could be used to pay for the software. Members discussed the benefits of Rec Desk software and payment options.

Meeting Date: 4/6/2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 2 of 3

Hudgins made a motion to spend up to \$3,400 on Rec Desk software and enter into a one-year contract.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Field Condition

Donahue said fields look good and he will let baseball league know and they will probably set something up to clean up fields this weekend. Lynne said CBC hasn't thatched yet and asked Donahue for a baseball schedule. Blaisdell said to hold off on tree removal until Selectmen approval. Thompson said the multi-use field at the Rec Building is very squishy. Blaisdell said it will clear up but tends to have a soft area throughout the year.

Lifeguard & Counselor Hiring

Counselors

Lynne said she has received no applications for counselors, and is concerned that the pay is too low. Counselors are currently paid \$9 per hour, with surrounding towns offering higher pay for counselors. (Atkinson is paying \$11 per hour and Plaistow is paying \$12 per hour.) Dyer mentioned offering referral bonus as incentive to get counselors, and suggested staff perks such as Free Pizza Friday. Lynne said so far they have 7 returning counselors out of the 18 they had last year. Thompson suggested marketing the position to high school seniors who are entering college for Early Childhood Education. Members discussed budget regarding Summer Rec Program, and agreed to make online post to advertise counselor positions on Sandown Rec Facebook page and share to every community page in the district.

Hudgins made a motion to raise counselor starting pay to \$12 per hour, with \$3 per hour increase for returning counselors.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Donahue

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Hudgins made makes a motion to rescind his motion.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Donahue

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Blaisdell made a motion to raise all counselors pay by \$2 an hour, with a starting pay of \$11 per hour.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Donahue

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting Date: 4/6/2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 3 of 3

Lifeguards

Sandown Rec lifeguards earned between \$12.36 and \$12.67 per hour for 2021 season. Dyer said the budget planned to increase to between \$12.98 and \$13.30 for 2022. Members discussed raising lifeguard pay by a larger amount. Lynne said they will need Board of Selectmen approval to raise lifeguard pay because money will come from operating budget.

Blaisdell made a motion to raise lifeguard pay \$1 per hour per person, pending approval of Board of Selectmen.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Hudgins

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Status of Summer Rec

Thompson met with Dyer, Mike & Casey for inventory for summer program. Members gave consensus to have Thompson put together a quote for new equipment, such as a wheeled sprinkler cart and a large tent canopy. Members agreed to offer a family discount of \$10 per week, per additional child, after the first child enrolled in Summer Rec Program, and to announce upcoming summer program with the option of possibly having an online registration.

Old Home Day

Members discussed their possible involvement in this year's Sandown Old Home Day.

Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn at 8:15pm.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Hudgins

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Submitted By:

Jessica Manning
Recording Secretary