

RECREATION COMMISSION

Town of Sandown, NH

Meeting Date: 7/20/2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 1 of 4

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

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

Members Not Present: John Donahue

Meeting was called to order by Blaisdell at 6:35pm.

Hudgins made a motion to accept minutes as written from 6/15/2022.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: Blaisdell, Dyer, Hudgins

Abstain: Longchamps

Motion passes 3-0-1.

Summer Camp Update

Update

Thompson said camp is going great, and has received nothing but good comments. She sent a letter home to parents explaining that they made addendum in their hand book, stating that campers must be dropped off before 9:30am, unless they are notified in advance for reasons such as a doctor appointment. Hudgins said he has heard great things and everyone he spoke with is happy with the summer program.

Staffing

Dyer asked about summer staffing, and Thompson said they had Honor Society volunteers join them on the Canobie field trip, creating a 1-5 ratio. Thompson said moving forward she is requesting staff not take time off on week 3. Thompson also shared that they lost one of their lifeguard staff, but the public does not appear to be concerned about the lack of lifeguard on duty at the beach during other hours.

RecDesk

Members and Thompson discussed RecDesk software. Thompson said they were having issues with payments with Clover Connect and RecDesk, and that the Finance Director is dealing with them and working through it. Dyer reminded that they can switch credit card companies. Dyer also reminded to use 20,000 free emails included with RecDesk to help advertise. Members and Thompson discussed receiving payment of campers who are attending the summer program.

Meeting Date: 7/20/2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 2 of 4

Lemonade Stand

Thompson said she can't get their grill to turn on, and they need it to sell hot dogs to raise money for the food pantry, as the hot dog steamer can't cook as many hot dogs as the grill. Members and Thompson discussed issue, and Hudgins and Blaisdell agreed to look at it.

Fall Programming

Upcoming Programs

Thompson shared that she is planning to offer alternating schedules every Wednesday, including Toddler Time and Homeschool Club every other week. She also has other movie nights scheduled and a Teddy Bear Picnic. Thompson said someone inquired about an afternoon bootcamp exercise class. Members discussed the possibility of using the town hall for classes if the rec building was taken. Thompson shared her plans to be present at Old Home Day, and members discussed Senior Harvest Dinner at Zorvino's on 11/9/22, Santa's Helper Night and a possible Teen Night.

Afterschool Program

Thompson and members discussed plans for an afterschool program, eligible for grades 1-5, from 3-6pm, offering snack and homework time, with the possibility of spots for 12-20 children. Thompson hopes to have this available the first week of school, but hasn't made an announcement yet until they determine the number of kids, and hopes to hire 2 staff. Thompson is hoping to charge \$25 per day, or \$80 per week.

Movie Nights

Thompson said they had an approximate attendance of 50-60 people at their first movie night. Members discussed ways to keep bugs away, such as professional fogging, purchasing a fogger, offering bug spray, and tiki torches. Thompson said she is hesitant about using tiki torches because of safety. Dyer suggested asking if the professional spraying companies would give a discount if they displayed advertisements for them. Thompson said that Library has given good feedback on the event, as well.

Pavilion Update

Longchamps shared information about a pavilion kit from American Landscape Structures, measuring 20ft x 36ft, which should fit 100 kids seated at picnic tables. Longchamps said the company will stain, pre drill, prep for electrical, ship, and install. To ship and install costs approximately \$10,000, and should be assembled in less than 2 days, with a total cost of approximately \$70,000. Members discussed options for concrete slabs, and Longchamps said they will need some sitework and drainage, and electrical for fans and lights. He said they are currently at a 14-week lead time. Members discussed asking the Selectmen for grant money, and Longchamps agreed to attend Selectmen meeting, as well.

Meeting Date: 7/20/2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 3 of 4

Seely Beach

Vandalism

Thompson is concerned with vandalism at Seely Beach. She said that swimming lines have been cut, the life guard chair has been carved, a bicycle has been disassembled and thrown into a tree, and trees have been spray-painted, forcing her to file a police report. Police said they will be making more of a presence at the beach. Members discussed placing trail cameras, and Lynne suggested Thompson check with Police Chief Gordon before purchasing any because he may have some.

Stormwater Management

Thompson said there is a broken railing on the stairs and is becoming unsafe. Members also discussed the issue of runoff and erosion. Lynne suggested speaking to town engineer regarding stormwater management issues.

No Fishing

Thompson said there is an ongoing issue with fishing hooks at Seely Beach, with kids finding hooks and Thompson getting a fish hook stuck in her hand. She is extremely concerned with children getting hurt, and wants to put up "No Fishing" signs at the beach, since fishing is not allowed but there are no signs stating that. She also wants to put up "No Dogs" signs. Members gave consensus to buy and install signs. Lynne suggested making an amendment to the rules and going in front of Selectmen to do this.

Becky Thompson left meeting.

Blaisdell made a motion to go into nonpublic discussion under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) employee matters.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Hudgins

Roll Call: Blaisdell – yes; Hudgins – yes; Dyer – yes; Longchamps – yes

Motion passes unanimously.

Blaisdell made a motion to seal the minutes.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Hudgins

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Hudgins

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

149 **Meeting Date:** 7/20/2022

150 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building

151 **Page:** 4 of 4

152

153

154 Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

155

156 Next meeting is scheduled for 8/3/2022.

157

158

159

160 **Submitted By:**

161

162 *Jessica Manning*

163

164 Jessica Manning

165 Recording Secretary