

# RECREATION COMMISSION

## Town of Sandown, NH

### **Recreation Commission**

**Meeting Date:** September 14, 2022

**Meeting Location:** Rec Building

**Page:** 1 of 4

**Members Present:** Chairman George Blaisdell, Chris Longchamps, Heidi Dyer

**Also Present:** Becky Thompson

**Members Not Present:** Darren Hudgins, ex officio

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

Dyer made a motion to accept minutes as written from August 3, 2022.

**Motion By:** Dyer

**Seconded By:** Longchamps

**In Favor:** All

**Motion passes unanimously.**

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

### **End of summer wrap up**

Thompson shared a letter written by Casey stating that she and Mike are stepping down from their Summer Rec positions. Members discussed letter and Thompson said she would like to keep two Coordinators and two Supervisors for Summer Rec. Members and Thompson discussed the issues of staff taking time off, and that the new rules regarding time-off requests will be stated upon hire next year. Thompson also plans to advertise earlier next year for summer staff positions, as well as holding camp registration earlier. Thompson and members discussed bussing issues, and Dyer recommended hosting a Summer Rec survey. Thompson plans to have a survey ready to show members by October.

### **Requisition Forms – Refund Requests**

Members and Thompson discussed refunds and if a new form is needed. Refund requests were discussed, approved, and signed.

### **After School Program**

Thompson said the afterschool program is going amazingly. Thompson explained that their highest enrollment day has 12 kids, and all busses are figured out. Dyer asked what is the protocol if a student doesn't show up. Thompson said she calls the parent and then the school, but thankfully they have had no issues. Members discussed the daily schedule, which includes designated homework time, snack, and play time, and discussed plans for the winter and inclement weather. Blaisdell asked if the program is affecting any other afternoon programming, and Thompson said it is not conflicting with any current programs, and that they always clean up after themselves.

## **Recreation Commission**

**Meeting Date:** September 14, 2022

**Meeting Location:** Rec Building

**Page:** 2 of 4

### **Afterschool Program continued**

Thompson said it only affects other potential afternoon programming since the space is taken. Dyer asked what happens on early release days from school. Thompson said that if there is no school then there is no afterschool program. Thompson and members discussed doing a school vacation program, possibly for February and April vacation. Thompson said she is not sure yet, and doesn't want to overwhelm staff. Dyer asked if this could be put on the survey.

### **NHPR Conference**

Thompson shared upcoming NHPR conference information, and asked if she needed member approval to attend. Members discussed budget for professional development, gave consensus for Thompson to attend, and agreed that it is a great opportunity. Thompson shared she is also attending a NHMA budget conference via Zoom, as well. Members discussed mileage reimbursement for Thompson, and Blaisdell encouraged Thompson to report mileage as it happens, and not to wait. Thompson asked if she always needs member approval to attend conferences, and Blaisdell said no, as long as it is within the budget and pertains to her job.

### **Late Fall/Early December Programming**

#### **Fall Programming**

##### ***Monster Mash – Saturday, October 22, 2022***

Dyer suggested getting a food truck, and members discussed the options of hosting a teen dance after the event or hosting an adult chili cook-off. Thompson said she plans to have tarot card readings, pumpkin carving contest, and turning the Rec building into haunted house. Thompson said she plans to make volunteer form. Members and Thompson discussed a rain date option.

##### ***Hocus Pocus 2 Movie Night – Saturday, October 15, 2022***

Dyer asked about advertising in the newspaper, such as the Carriage Town News and Tri-Town Times. Members and Thompson discussed improvements to movie nights.

##### ***Fall Foliage Trip – Thursday, October 13, 2022***

Fall Foliage trip is full and they are doing it with Plaistow and Atkinson.

##### ***Toddler Time: Apple Day – Wednesday, September 21, 2022***

Thompson shared that Toddler Time is now doing themed events, the first being Apple Day. Thompson also gave an update that Homeschool Club is doing well. Since they are both free events, Dyer asked about expenses. Thompson said snacks are left over from Afterschool Program.

#### ***Other Fall Programming Updates***

Thompson wants to schedule a trip to the Yankee Candle shop at some point. Longchamps discussed how to stop programs from being cancelled and Thompson suggested offering a free class, or offering to other towns at alternate times and advertise each other's activities. Members discussed 60+ Zorvino Luncheon, and the subject of wearing name tags in previous years. Thompson said they have approximately 20 people signed up for the town yard sale so far. Thompson said they will be doing Puppy Yoga course with a local shelter, where puppies join the yoga class, and all money goes to the animal shelter and all puppies are up for adoption.

99 **Recreation Commission**

100 **Meeting Date:** September 14, 2022

101 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building

102 **Page:** 3 of 4

103  
104 **December Programming**

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106 ***Christmas Tree Lighting – Friday, December 2, 2022***

107 Thompson shared ideas for the event, such as Santa, hot chocolate, possible Grinch costume, and  
108 Christmas tree lighting.

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110 ***Make & Take Fair – Saturday, December 3, 2022***

111 Thompson shared that this event, located at the library, will include crafts and is good  
112 advertisement for the Rec Department.

113  
114 ***Other December Programming Updates***

115 Thompson wants to do Toy Swap and Cookie Walk. Thompson said she will advertise for the Toy  
116 Swap after the Town-Wide Yard Sale for unsold toys. Thompson said she wants to do the Polar  
117 Express movie with Historical Society but is not sure yet, and Christmas Light Judging. Members  
118 discussed possibly cutting down events since everyone is so busy in December.

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120  
121 **National Fitness campaign / Fitness Court**

122 Thompson explained an idea about a 38' x 38' outdoor workout space, which costs \$170,000  
123 without sponsors. Members agreed it was not necessary and too expensive.

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125  
126 ***Discussion of old business begins.***

127  
128 **Miller Field**

129 Members discussed pickle-ball group using the field. Thompson said fields are looking good.  
130 Members discussed winterizing, cutting trees, and fall sports. Thompson is planning to do a walk-  
131 through with Joint Loss Committee and hear their safety recommendations. Members also  
132 discussed fencing.

133  
134 **Pavilion**

135 Longchamps gave update on pavilion plans, and members discussed putting together a  
136 presentation for Selectmen. Members looked over detailed budget and revolving account funds,  
137 and gave consensus to go before Selectmen.

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139 Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn.

140 ***Motion By:*** Blaisdell

141 ***Seconded By:*** Dyer

142 ***In Favor:*** All

143 ***Motion passes unanimously.***

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145 Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

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147 Next meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2022.

149 **Recreation Commission**  
150 **Meeting Date:** September 14, 2022  
151 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building  
152 **Page:** 4 of 4  
153  
154  
155 **Submitted By:**  
156  
157 *Jessica Manning*  
158  
159 Jessica Manning  
160 Recording Secretary