

RECREATION COMMISSION

Town of Sandown, NH

Recreation Commission

Meeting Date: October 5, 2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

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

Also Present: Becky Thompson, Rec Director; Tyler Marcotte; Ben Sharpe

Members Not Present: Darren Hudgins, ex officio

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

Longchamps made a motion to accept minutes as written from September 14, 2022.

Motion By: Longchamps

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Discussion of new business begins.

New Camera

Blaisdell reminded members that this is their first recorded meeting, as they were one of the only departments not being taped, and that they are not televised live, but the recorded meeting will be uploaded.

Welcome Ben Sharpe, nominee for Recreation Commission Member

Blaisdell made a motion to nominate Ben Sharpe to the Recreation Commission with a term ending 2024.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Members agreed to bring this to Selectmen at their next meeting and welcomed Sharpe. Sharpe shared that he is President of Sandown Baseball & Softball, and updated members that he has secured Select Excavation to turn over fields for them. Members discussed specific field uses, Miller Field fencing issues, and taking trees down. Sharpe said they would generate funds in the spring for the fence, and members discussed issues at Miller field, such as flag disposal and playground maintenance. Sharpe also shared that they are having issues at Miller Field with mice, and have contacted a pest control company, which will cost approximately \$300 initially, and \$75 per month after that. This also includes wasp control in the dugouts. Members discussed payment for pest control, getting the Snack Shack up and running, and landscaping issues.

Tyler Marcotte left the meeting.

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53
54 **Review of 2023 Budget Draft**

55 Thompson and members reviewed and discussed budgets. Dyer asked if any expenses are
56 outstanding, and Thompson said all expenses are current as of last week. Thompson said that Gayle
57 helped with her budget, and some items still needed to be filled in, such as payroll for Recreation
58 Director, Recording Secretary, and lifeguards. Members discussed specifics about the Parks & Rec
59 Budget, such as copy machine costs, spinning playground equipment, senior rec, field updates,
60 newspaper ads, and consolidating playground equipment costs into one budget item. Members also
61 discussed specifics of the Rec Building Expenses Budget, such as electricity and propane costs
62 increasing. Thompson reminded that this is a rough draft and will update and discuss the budget
63 again.

64
65 **Monster Mash Update - Saturday, October 22, 2022 - 4pm-7pm**

66 Members discussed being optimistic for a great turnout, and discussed the possibility of too many
67 attendees. Thompson said the event will include Library reading spooky stories, Triple Elm food
68 truck, Cub Scouts helping with carnival games (sack race, donut on a string, "make a mummy" toilet
69 paper game, etc.), flashlight hunt, costume contest, tarot card readings, and face painting. Members
70 discussed the set-up of the flashlight hunt, and event set-up. Blaisdell offered to run the popcorn
71 machine, and cautioned Thompson against over-committing herself to too many activities.
72 Thompson asked to spend up to \$300 on games, and members gave consensus to allow. Blaisdell
73 suggested for Thompson to ask Ed Mencis to rent light poles.

74
75 **November Programming Idea**

76 Thompson wants to do a "turkey hunt" event with the Historical Society. She suggested getting
77 turkey cardboard cutouts and hide them around town, with clues of where to find them. This is an
78 event that families could do together in their car. Members discussed offering to Conservation
79 Commission to be involved as well.

80
81 **Southern NH Festival of Lights**

82 Thompson suggested offering for residents to sign up to be part of the Festival of Lights, which is a
83 list of addresses, by town, for people to drive and see Christmas lights. Members discussed a waiver
84 form for addresses to be put on the list.

85
86 **Joint loss**

87 Thompson shared the results of Joint Loss Committee's walk through of Miller Field, and discussed
88 specific findings.

89 ***B-Field*** – Fencing issues, new first aid kit, AED access code, lock on freezer in concession stand,
90 batting cage maintenance, and drop-off behind bleachers.

91 ***C-Field*** - Path maintenance, cut tree limbs, potholes on field.

92 ***Playground*** – Rocks in play area, equipment maintenance, steep area near C-Field path, additional
93 sand needed.

94
95 **Signatures for Payroll Tax**

96 Members signed payroll tax for \$2,302.03 from summer camp budget.

97
98 ***Discussion of old business begins.***

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103
104 ***Summer Survey***

105 Thompson plans to get it out next week, and spoke to Adam from library about the town-wide
106 survey, and wants to be involved in that.

107
108 ***Ducks on Seely Beach***

109 Thompson and members discussed the issue of ducks on Seely Beach, causing the E. coli to be too
110 high. Blaisdell asked for Thompson to speak to Officer Bucco about removing the lines, but
111 Thompson was unsure if the high E. coli affected that. Thompson said she will talk to pest control
112 about how to keep ducks away.

113
114 ***Ski Waxing Event***

115 Dyer asked about Longchamps doing a ski tuning and waxing event this year. Longchamps said he
116 would love to do it again, and members discussed holding it in December.

117
118 ***Toy Drive***

119 Thompson and members discussed collecting toys, and are hoping for the first week of December.
120 Members discussed the toy donation requirements, such as no stuffed animals, happy meal toys, or
121 broken toys.

122
123 ***Other Programming***

124 Members discussed a cake decorating class, essential oils class, and a wreath making class, which
125 Thompson is looking for someone to teach.

126
127 ***Afterschool Program Update***

128 Thompson shared that they now have 15 students enrolled in the program, with varying schedules.
129 Members and Thompson discussed vacation week camps, and hope to use summer camp
130 counselors to help if they are available. Thompson shared that she plans to do an April vacation
131 camp for Monday – Wednesday of that week. Members discussed the possibility for a tumbling
132 camp for December vacation week.

133
134 Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn.

135 ***Motion By:*** Blaisdell

136 ***Seconded By:*** Longchamps

137 ***In Favor:*** All

138 ***Motion passes unanimously.***

139
140 Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

141
142 Next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2022.

143
144 **Submitted By:**

145 *Jessica Manning*

146 Jessica Manning

147 Recording Secretary