

RECREATION COMMISSION

Town of Sandown, NH

Recreation Commission

Meeting Date: October 19, 2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 1 of 4

Members Present: Chairman George Blaisdell; Chris Longchamps; Heidi Dyer; Darren Hudgins, ex officio; Ben Sharpe (Budget discussion only)

Also Present: Becky Thompson, Rec Director

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

Dyer made a motion to accept minutes as written from October 5, 2022.

Motion By: Dyer

Seconded By: Longchamps

In Favor: Dyer, Longchamps, Blaisdell

Abstain: Hudgins

Motion passes 3-0-1.

Camera Update

Thompson updated members that the last Rec meeting was recorded, but it wasn't aired due to a volume issue, and explained that the volume issue was fixed for this meeting.

Discussion of new business begins.

Afterschool Art Program

Thompson explained that a 4th grade Sandown resident is hoping to assist in running an afterschool art lesson program once a month. Thompson has been in contact with the student's mother, and they plan to open it up to the community. Thompson hopes to make it a learning experience for the student, and encouraged her to present the idea to the Recreation Commission, but she was unfortunately not feeling well and was unable to attend the meeting. Thompson and members discussed the art program, and Thompson reassured members that it will not interfere with the current afterschool program.

Requisition Forms – Refund Requests

Refund requests were discussed, approved, and signed.

Self-Defense Course

Dyer said that she has been in contact with a self-defense course instructor, and they are looking to book a class for January. Dyer explained that the instructor requires 10 participants, for a minimum of two hours, which costs \$300 total. Members discussed opening it to the greater community, and hope to schedule a class for January 14, 2023. Dyer said she will be in touch with the instructor.

49 **Recreation Commission**

50 **Meeting Date:** October 19, 2022

51 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building

52 **Page:** 2 of 4

53
54 **Monster Mash Update**

55 Thompson said they are looking good for the event, and hopefully has 4 volunteers. Thompson said
56 she no longer plans to read tarot cards, and has someone filling in for her, so she will be free to run
57 the event. Members and Thompson discussed the appropriate number of Easter eggs. Dyer urged
58 Thompson to have 1,000 eggs filled, and members discussed filling eggs with items other than
59 candy, such as plastic spider rings. Thompson said the Boy Scouts are unable to assist with
60 volunteering, and the carnival games will be self-run, or will use other volunteers if needed. Dyer
61 said she will be doing face painting, and members discussed costume judging and set-up.

62
63
64 ***Discussion of old business begins.***

65
66
67 ***Turkey Hunt Event***

68 Thompson has not been able to touch base with Historical Society, but still hopes to do this event
69 paired with them. Members liked the idea of the event, and reminded that Thompson can reach out
70 to Conservation and/or do the event on her own.

71
72 ***Miller Field Dumpster***

73 Thompson said dumpster was scheduled to be emptied on an on-call basis, which she was unaware
74 of, which is why it hasn't been emptied. She asked the company to empty it and it will be emptied
75 tomorrow.

76
77 ***Seely Beach***

78 Thompson plans to have the porta-potties removed from the beach next weekend, and hopes to fix
79 the swim lines soon. Blaisdell and Thompson discussed pulling the lines out, and Thompson said
80 she doesn't want to subject anyone to the E. coli caused from the ducks. Members discussed specific
81 contracted start and end date for porta-potties next year.

82
83 ***Summer Survey***

84 Thompson said the survey hasn't gone out yet. Dyer asked if she could do it, and Thompson said
85 she can get her the survey. Dyer said she will look into doing it on Rec Desk. Thompson said she has
86 been swamped with work and will get to it completed ASAP and forward it to Dyer.

87
88 ***Afterschool Program***

89 Thompson said it's going great, and that the kids have their first half day tomorrow. Thompson is
90 going to be at the Parks & Rec Conference, so the afterschool program will be closed tomorrow for
91 lack of staff. Next Tuesday is also a half day and they are open. Thompson said the kids love it and
92 staff are happy.

93
94 ***Toy Drive***

95 Thompson said she will be putting boxes out for the toy drive soon. Members discussed advertising
96 in the newspaper and where to donate money to. Regarding the donation, Longchamps suggested
97 speaking to the library to see if they need museum passes.

99 **Recreation Commission**

100 **Meeting Date:** October 19, 2022

101 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building

102 **Page:** 3 of 4

103
104 ***Town-Wide Yard Sale***

105 Blaisdell asked how the Town-Wide Yard Sale went. Thompson said she had to check on specific
106 numbers, and members discussed success of the event.

107
108 ***Senior Luncheon at Zorvino's***

109 Thompson said attendance is looking good. Dyer offered help, and Thompson said she will let her
110 know what she needs help with. Members discussed having a band play, and Thompson said she
111 will look into it. Members discussed centerpieces, raffle tickets and prizes, and name tags.

112
113 ***Castle in the Clouds Event***

114 Thompson said it went amazingly, even though the weather was stormy and cold, and the bus got
115 lost. Thompson explained that seniors are asking for less expensive trip, and wants to do a Yankee
116 Candle Factory trip. Members discussed ways to make the event less expensive, such as bringing
117 their own lunch. Dyer recommended pricing trip before booking to ensure that it will be less
118 expensive. Thompson said it is not necessarily a senior trip, but it tends to be.

119
120
121 ***Ben Sharpe joined the meeting.***

122
123
124 **Review of 2023 Budget**

125
126 ***Parks & Rec Budget***

127 Members reviewed and discussed budget, including payroll for lifeguards, recording secretary, and
128 the possibility of raising Thompson's hours from 34 to 35 hours per week, for retirement and
129 insurance reasons. Members said that cost also factors in with compensation packages, and
130 Hudgins explained that even an extra hour can cost the town tens of thousands of dollars. Blaisdell
131 said they will discuss it, and members discussed the appropriate time of year to hire lifeguards, and
132 their rate of pay. Thompson lowered some budgets, such as Tech, Electric, and Rubbish, and
133 members encouraged to have the budgets remain the same since the amounts were not high.

134
135 ***Building Operations Budget***

136 Members discussed telephone budget, possible upgrades to the alarm system, and which line item
137 to place it under. Dyer reminded Thompson to write a yearly Rec summary by the end of January,
138 and to get inspiration from last year's summary. Members discussed combining mowing into one
139 budget, and Blaisdell said it was originally designed to show separate data for the cost of running
140 the rec building, but they can discuss doing that in next year's budget, and members agreed to ask
141 Gayle for guidance. Members discussed the set-up of budgets, the Revolving account, and summer
142 rec budget. Dyer said there were two \$1,000 deposits from the dock projects, and members
143 discussed accepting of these donations.

149 **Recreation Commission**

150 **Meeting Date:** October 19, 2022

151 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building

152 **Page:** 4 of 4

153

154

155 **Alarm System Upgrade**

156 Members discussed upgrading the security system at the rec building. Thompson said the alarm
157 company blames the phone company, and the phone company blames the alarm company, so she is
158 having a very difficult time resolving the problem. Members agreed that it has been an issue and
159 discussed the cost of upgrades. Members gave consensus to move forward with a new alarm
160 system.

161

162

163

164 Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn.

165 ***Motion By:*** Blaisdell

166 ***Seconded By:*** Longchamps

167 ***In Favor:*** All

168 ***Motion passes unanimously.***

169

170 Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

171

172 Next meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2022.

173

174

175

176

177

178

179 **Submitted By:**

180

181 *Jessica Manning*

182

183 Jessica Manning

184 Recording Secretary