

RECREATION COMMISSION

Town of Sandown, NH

Recreation Commission

Meeting Date: November 2, 2022

Meeting Location: Rec Building

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

Also Present: Sean Tiney, Sandown Baseball

Members Not Present: Ben Sharpe

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

Hudgins made a motion to accept minutes as written from October 19, 2022.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Dyer

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Security Alarm Replacement

Members gave consensus and signed a request form to replace the alarm system at the Recreation Building, totaling \$698.

Sean Tiney – Field Improvements

Members and Tiney discussed turning-over the fields, and they are scheduled to come November 18th, and also discussed fixing the left field fence and the softball field gate, and Tiney said they were looking to get payment assistance from the Rec Commission. Blaisdell said they will need invoices, and that they will help with fencing, but that batting cage improvements are baseball's responsibility. Tiney said he is waiting on quotes for the fencing repairs, and Hudgins asked him to submit a bill when he has one. Members and Tiney discussed specific field improvements. Tiney thanked members and left the meeting.

Sean Tiney leaves meeting.

Miller Field Water Pump

Thompson explained that a volunteer said the floor where the water pump sits at Miller Field is about to collapse, and that it should be fine through the winter but will need to be fixed in the spring.

Discussion of new business begins.

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Monster Mash – A Success!

Thompson said the event went very well, with at least 100 attendees and has heard good feedback. Members agreed it was a success and to plan to do it again next year. Dyer said they needed more help, and that it would have been helpful to have food trucks, and could do 2 hours instead of 3 hours. Dyer discussed their food truck not showing up, and suggested having paid staff instead of volunteers. Thompson said since it's a free event, they will have to figure out where money is coming from to pay staff. Members discussed pumpkin launcher and ideas for next year.

Holiday Programming

Turkey Hunt

Thompson said she got ahold of someone on the Conservation Commission, but still has not been able to get ahold of the Historical Society, and Hudgins said he would contact them for her. Thompson said Conservation said they would discuss the event at their meeting. Thompson said she is thinking 8 turkeys in 8 different locations, and once people sign up, they have a clue sent to their email. The first family to email pictures of all turkeys wins a gift card to Hannaford for a turkey. Members discussed number of turkeys and gave consensus to buy them. Thompson said she plans to put contact paper on them to waterproof them, so they can reuse them.

Adult Yoga Class

Classes are starting this month. Thompson and members discussed puppy yoga, but Thompson said she hasn't followed up yet.

Essential Oils Class

They are meeting again November 15, 2022.

Christmas Light Contest

Thompson said there are no sign-ups yet, but it is still early. Members discussed judges for the event, and Thompson said judges will be driving around, and will ask if contestants want their address posted to Southern NH Festival of Lights. Members discussed a prize for the winner.

Christmas Tree Lighting

Thompson said they have to get approval to have a chorus group to sing, and they are waiting on approval. She plans to ask if last year's Santa and Mrs. Claus will come again for this year. Thompson said she has been asking groups if they want to run a craft, and 60+ group said yes, and she plans to also ask Garden Club. Thompson and members discussed creative ways to promote the event, such as Snapchat filters and photo backdrops. Longchamps suggested having a banner printed.

Toy Consignment

Thompson said she hasn't decided which charity the money is going to. Members discussed possible Gaga Pit, and moving equipment around on the playground. Thompson also suggested NH Make-A-Wish. Hudgins recommended to discuss needs with Arlene from the food pantry, and Thompson discussed buying gifts from the Christmas Giving Tree with the money.

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

105 Thompson said they earned \$480 to donate from the yard sale.

106
107 ***Phone Calls from Santa***

108 Thompson explained her fiancé is a classically trained voice actor and can do phone calls with kids
109 while he speaks in Santa's voice. Longchamps said he was concerned with timing of the phone calls.
110 Thompson explained the schedule they planned, and that parents will select a preferred time to call.

111
112 ***60+ Zorvino's Luncheon***

113 Thompson said they are expecting approximately 50 people. Thompson explained that they will not
114 have a band, and any music will be played on Spotify. Dyer asked about a quote for the event, and
115 Thompson said she can send the quote as soon as she gets it. Members discussed specifics of the
116 event and Longchamps offered to help.

117
118 ***Make & Take Event***

119 Dyer asked about the previously discussed Christmas craft event. Thompson said it is the Make &
120 Take at the library, and hasn't heard if it was approved yet but will check. Thompson explained that
121 the event is being held at the library but she will be there representing the Rec Department.

122
123
124 **Summer Camp Roles & Salary**

125 Thompson and members discussed new Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators' roles and pay.
126 Hudgins said their previous rate increase was because members weren't sure if they would have a
127 director and wanted to lock them in for the season since they had a tough year previously. Dyer
128 suggested going back to 2021 pay rates, and members discussed pay rates between \$20 per hour
129 and \$23 per hour.

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131
132 **Budget**

133
134 ***Parks & Recreation***

135 Members discussed payroll for Director and lifeguards, and Thompson said her goal is to have 5
136 lifeguard staff. Thompson believes the vandalism at Seely beach was because there weren't
137 lifeguards, and would like to have someone staffed at all times. Members agreed to budget for it.
138 Thompson reminded that some items are moved around on the budget.

139
140 ***Summer Special Recreation***

141 Thompson explained that this budget reflects other programming and not Summer Rec Program,
142 and discussed changes for next year. Thompson reminded that this budget is not reflective of the
143 Summer Rec staff pay increases. Members discussed transportation and Revolving Fund money.
144 Hudgins said they will want to see a breakdown of how profitable certain programs are.

145
146 ***Recreation Building Operations***

147 Members agreed that this budget looks fine.

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Discussion of old business begins.

Rec Director Conference

Dyer asked how Thompson's Rec Director Conference went, and Thompson said they talked a lot about diversity, and that she had a good experience.

Rec Director Certification

Dyer asked if Thompson had begun pursuing her Recreation Director certification, and recommended that she do it since it is within the budget.

Event Advertising

Dyer asked about advertising for the upcoming self-defense class, and expressed that they should have had a reporter attend Monster Mash for free advertising. Members discussed being more proactive about news exposure.

Safe Sitter Course

Dyer explained the benefits of choosing the Safe Sitter course instead of the babysitter certification put on by the Red Cross.

Survey Results

Dyer asked if there were results from the survey, and Thompson said she had received 2 responses so far, and that there was unfortunately no way to do surveys on RecDesk. Members discussed making improvements to the survey for next year.

Porta Potty Pick-Up

Dyer asked why porta potties haven't been picked up yet. Thompson explained that the company said they would take them, and needs to make sure they no longer paying for them, and will call them a third time. Longchamps suggested a written contract for next year.

Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Hudgins

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2022.

Submitted By:

Jessica Manning

Jessica Manning

Recording Secretary