

# RECREATION COMMISSION

## Town of Sandown, NH

### **Recreation Commission**

**Meeting Date:** March 15, 2023

**Meeting Location:** Rec Building

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**Members Present:** Chairman George Blaisdell; Ben Sharpe; Darren Hudgins, ex officio; Chris Longchamps

**Also Present:** Becky Thompson, Rec Director

**Members Not Present:** Heidi Dyer

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

Hudgins made a motion to accept minutes as written from February 15, 2023.

**Motion By:** Hudgins

**Seconded By:** Sharpe

**In Favor:** All

**Motion passes unanimously.**

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

### **Members signed forms for the following:**

#### ***Beach Passes***

Cost is \$235 for this year, and they will be orange and green.

#### ***MTB Worldwide***

Thompson explained that this is for the bus for the upcoming casino trip, and that they do not have a full bus yet.

#### ***Ballroom Dancing***

Thompson explained that this is an invoice for Vanderhoof's for their next session.

### **Summer Camp Budget 2023/ Finalize opening dates for camp**

Members discussed 2021, 2020, and 2019 budgets, and the 2023 budget. Thompson shared they will be having 8 weeks of camp this summer, and hopes to hire 4 new staff members for summer camp. Thompson explained week by week plans, field trips, and themes. Thompson and members discussed the need for a new grill for camp. Members discussed type of grills and the need for additional supplies for the summer, such as sunscreen, ice packs, etc. Thompson shared that camp will be starting June 26, and will run until August 18, and that this is fine with staff, and Thompson will plan lower numbers for when some staff must leave for college. Thompson said summer camp sign-ups will begin on April 3, 2023, on RecDesk.

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53  
54 ***Field Trips Update***

55 Thompson explained costs and field trip ideas, such as a Fisher Cats game offered at a discounted  
56 rate for summer camps; Chucksters, which is go carts and bumper boats in the Concord area; and  
57 specifics of other field trips. Sharpe asked if there was a type of program offered for campers who  
58 may not be able to afford the extra costs of field trips. Thompson explained that there are options  
59 available and she would work with them to figure it out.  
60

61 ***Movie Night Update***

62 Thompson updated that the plan is to host movie nights once a month, and will now be requiring  
63 sign ups ahead of time. If there are not enough families signed up, then they will not host the movie  
64 night. Thompson and members discussed scheduling movie nights on Fridays or Saturdays.  
65 Blaisdell said it is up to Thompson to decide, and that Friday is fine, which allows Thompson to  
66 have the weekend off. Hudgins said sign ups will allow them to know the event is worth doing, and  
67 members discussed minimum sign up amount. Thompson suggested showing The Goonies, and  
68 members agreed. Thompson also suggested showing The Bad Guys, and wants to do The Upside for  
69 an adult movie night.  
70  
71

72 **Review of Farmers Market**

73 Thompson said she met with vendors and reached out to different farmers markets, but only Candia  
74 responded. Members discussed the need for insurance, and whether the market should be held at  
75 the Rec Building or closer to the center of town. Thompson feels that hosting it at the Rec Building  
76 will be fine, and plans to get a flag for the main road. Thompson hopes to host the market from  
77 3pm-6pm, and parents picking up kids from camp and can stop by the farmer's market. Thompson  
78 also hopes to get food trucks. Thompson and members discussed not charging vendors, since sales  
79 cannot be guaranteed. Members also discussed signage, advertising, and appropriate closing time.  
80 Thompson said she will not host it unless she has at least 8-10 vendors signed up. Members  
81 discussed possibly having a crop sharing pick-up point, teaming up with Old Home Day and  
82 Oktoberfest, and giveaways and ideas for events.  
83  
84

85 **After School changing of Staff**

86 Thompson explained that Shay's last day is Friday, and another staff member is looking to take her  
87 spot, and needs a motion from the Commission to do so.  
88

89 Blaisdell recommend Charlie Cairns for the afterschool program at \$11 per hour starting Monday,  
90 March 20<sup>th</sup>.

91 ***Motion By:*** Blaisdell

92 ***Seconded By:*** Hudgins

93 ***In Favor:*** All

94 ***Motion passes unanimously.***  
95

96 **Discussion of reappointment of Members**

97 Thompson explained that the only member up for reappointment is Chris Longchamps.

98 Longchamps said he will remain on the Commission.

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104 **NHCF Express Grant Application for retaining wall/planter gardening project.**

105 Thompson said she met with a resident who can help with 3 raised bed gardens. Members  
106 discussed locations and set up. Thompson suggested doing raspberries, blueberries, and focusing  
107 on hardy plants. Thompson hopes to get grant money, and discussed possible issues with plowing.

108  
109 **Gaga Ball Pit & Playground Woodchips**

110 Thompson got dimensions for the gaga ball pit, and members discussed building it. Thompson also  
111 said that playgrounds will need new woodchips before summer, and discussed draining issues.  
112 Thompson and members discussed having volunteer help and plan to get pizza. Members also  
113 discussed replacing playground equipment. Thompson shared that the stairs at Seely Beach need  
114 to be redone, and that Joint Loss Committee is visiting on March 19, and she will report back.  
115 Members also discussed issues at Miller Field and spreading sand.

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117  
118 ***Discussion of old business begins.***

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121 **Programming Updates**

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123 ***Grandparents Day***

124 Rescheduled because of snow.

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126 ***Bingo for Books***

127 Great turnout, roughly 30 kids.

128  
129 ***Conservation Hike & Lunch***

130 Went great. Plan to do it again when the weather is warmer.

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132 ***Ladies' Night Out***

133 Had a turnout of 20-25 people. Doing another on April 21.

134  
135 ***Bingo***

136 Thompson explained that she emailed Atkinson Rec but hasn't heard back, and plans to discuss it  
137 with her at the casino trip. They cannot exchange money for bingo, but suggested bringing a prize  
138 and others can win it. Thompson shared that they could do a wrapped gift Yankee Swap style bingo  
139 for Christmastime. Members discussed the possibility of bringing gift cards.

140  
141 ***Trivia***

142 Thompson explained that police charge a minimum of 4 hours for a police detail. Members  
143 discussed if they want to play for 4 hours or just pay for the 4-hour minimum even if it is not used  
144 for the full time. Police Detail costs \$260, and members discussed payment. Blaisdell suggested  
145 hosting a family-friendly trivia night, with no alcohol to see how it goes. Thompson suggested  
146 offering food, and the ability for players to answer from their phones. Trivia night is scheduled for  
147 May 5, 2023.

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153

154 ***Bus Trips***

155 Currently no updates.

156

157 ***Fishing Derby***

158 Thompson shared that they can participate in the Fishing Derby on April 29, 2023. Members  
159 discussed shifts, and may need to start as early as 6am.

160

161 ***T-Shirts***

162 Members discussed the need for new shirts and Thompson said she will get them the amount.

163

164 ***Summer Transportation***

165 Thompson explained that she wants to finalize field trips before finding out costs from the bus  
166 company.

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168

169 Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn.

170 ***Motion By:*** Blaisdell

171 ***Seconded By:*** Hudgins

172 ***In Favor:*** All

173 ***Motion passes unanimously.***

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176 Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

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178 Next meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2023.

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184 **Submitted By:**

185

186 *Jessica Manning*

187

188 Jessica Manning

189 Recording Secretary