

RECREATION COMMISSION

Town of Sandown, NH

Recreation Commission

Meeting Date: April 19, 2023

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 1 of 4

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

Also Present: Becky Thompson, Rec Director

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

Hudgins made a motion to accept minutes as written from April 5, 2023.

Motion By: Hudgins

Seconded By: Longchamps

In Favor: Blaisdell, Sharpe, Longchamps, Hudgins

Abstain: Dyer

Motion passes 4-0-1.

Discussion of new business begins.

Payment/Refund Requests

Members signed forms for the following:

Payment for last ballroom dancing session – \$779.

Fill propane tank – \$1,034.

Two porta-potties – \$200 for Miller Field, \$270 for Rec Building.

Wildlife Encounter (2 shows) – \$715.

Hudgins left meeting briefly.

Baseball Update

Thompson said she replaced all medical items and AED is now installed. Porta-potties are there now, and Artie will be looking at moving brush and trees. Thompson suggested neon spray painted lines for parking. Sharpe and Thompson discussed number of porta-potties needed, and Thompson said she can have one removed. Thompson also said she plans to wait until June for a beach porta-potty to help cut costs, and that Timberlane takes care of the Central Field porta-potty. Blaisdell and Sharpe discussed backstop improvements needed, and Sharpe said that will be next year's project. Thompson said the dumpster should be replaced this week, as there is a hole in the current one.

49 **Recreation Commission**

50 **Meeting Date:** April 19, 2023

51 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building

52 **Page:** 2 of 4

53
54 *Hudgins returned to meeting.*

55
56
57 **Summer Camp Update / T-Shirt Quotes**

58
59 ***Field Trips***

60 Members and Thompson looked over field trip schedule and discussed field trip procedures, and
61 Thompson shared that she wants to finalize field trip schedule before booking busses. Longchamps
62 encouraged Thompson to book sooner rather than later. Thompson said she will reach out by the
63 end of the week.

64
65 ***Inclusion Counselor Position***

66 Thompson updated that the Inclusion Counselor interview is happening next Monday, and soon
67 plans to create the job description. Members discussed the importance of posting the available
68 position.

69
70 ***T-Shirts***

71 Thompson reached out to many places and has only heard back from two. Thompson shared that
72 last year's shirts are not reusable quality, and discussed the options of sweatshirts for the
73 counselors, so they don't cover "Staff" t-shirts. Members gave consensus to provide staff with a
74 sweatshirt, in addition to 2 tank tops and 2 t-shirts, and to place the order with Breeze T's.

75
76
77 *Ben Sharpe left meeting.*

78
79
80 ***Grill***

81 Thompson shared that she found a grill for \$230, and Hudgins said he can donate his. Members
82 discussed grills and what type will work best for the program, or potentially be large enough to use
83 at other events, and whether it should be commercial-grade. Thompson said she will not buy the
84 \$230 grill, and Hudgins plans to donate his grill within a few weeks. Thompson thanked him and
85 asked if it can be donated by June 26th.

86
87
88 **Review of Programing for May**

89
90 ***Trivia***

91 Members discussed prize incentives and inviting all town boards to play as teams.

92
93 ***Are You Smarter Than a Selectman?***

94 Members discussed making it a donation-based game to raise money for the food pantry. The game
95 includes questions with Selectmen and discussed the involvement of a dunk tank.

99 **Recreation Commission**

100 **Meeting Date:** April 19, 2023

101 **Meeting Location:** Rec Building

102 **Page:** 3 of 4

103
104 ***Wildlife Encounters***

105 Thompson shared that the Grandparent's Day event has been rescheduled, and they are doing a
106 wildlife encounter next Monday.

107
108 ***Aquatic Animal Encounter***

109 Seacoast Science Center is bringing "touch tank" animals.

110
111 ***Ladies Craft Night***

112 Another upcoming ladies' night, hoping for around 15 attendees.

113
114 ***Fishing Derby***

115 Discussed upcoming fishing derby, and promotional items, such as kids' sunglasses, mini frisbees,
116 jump ropes, and plastic water bottles.

117
118 ***Movie Nights***

119 They are hoping to play The Goonies, Bad Guys, and a movie for adults that is to be determined.

120
121 ***Scams for Seniors***

122 Thompson shared that on May 4, 2023, Sandown Police Chief is coming to explain spam and scams
123 for seniors.

124
125 ***Farmers Market***

126 Thompson updated that she has checklists for vendors, including policies and procedures, has 5
127 vendors signed up currently, and is hoping to do every Tuesday, excluding July 4th. Thompson and
128 members discussed vendors that are signed up, and vendor requirements.

129
130
131 ***Discussion of old business begins.***

132
133 **Lifeguards**

134 Thompson shared that she has no applications for lifeguards yet, but does have 2 counselors who
135 are willing to become lifeguard certified. Members discussed difficulty hiring lifeguards, and how
136 other towns seem to be experiencing it, as well.

137
138 **Pavilion**

139 Members discussed updates regarding the pavilion, and Hudgins said the town may be able to help
140 with cost. Longchamps reminded that the cost is roughly \$70,000, and members discussed making
141 a formal presentation to the Board of Selectmen.

142
143 **Joint Loss Management – Beach Report**

144 Thompson shared that Joint Loss Management Committee went to Seely Beach and looked at safety
145 concerns, including new placement for life guard chairs. Thompson will present the official report
146 when it's done.

Recreation Commission

Meeting Date: April 19, 2023

Meeting Location: Rec Building

Page: 4 of 4

Playground Updates

Thompson said she will be ordering safety woodchips soon. Members discussed the possibility of turning the old skate park into a pickleball court or tennis court, and having pickleball clinics for residents. Hudgins said he will build gaga ball pit soon, and Thompson asked that it be completed before camp starts, and it could be set up on volunteer day.

Grant Opportunity regarding Seely Beach

Dyer explained a chartable opportunity for up to \$20,000 through a grant, which opens May 1, 2023, and plans to ask Adam at the library for guidance in applying. Dyer said it can be for anything that benefits the community, and Blaisdell asked if it could be used for new stairs and a new railing at Seely Beach, which Dyer said yes. Thompson explained that she wants to install an ADA accessible ramp at Seely Beach. Members expressed that they don't think a ramp is likely to happen, but they can look into it. Dyer said the application deadline is September 1, 2023, with one year to complete the project. Members discussed applying for multiple grants, stormwater management at Seely Beach, and whether to repair or replace stairs. Members agreed to go to Seely Beach and decide.

Blaisdell made a motion to adjourn.

Motion By: Blaisdell

Seconded By: Hudgins

In Favor: All

Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2023.

Submitted By:

Jessica Manning

Jessica Manning

Recording Secretary