

**Town of Sunapee: Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2022**

- **In Attendance: Steve Bourque, Charleen Osborne, Jesse Socci, Time Berube (5:40pm)**
 - **Guests: None**
- **Meeting called to order by Charleen at 5:35PM**
- **Meeting Ended: 7:04PM Motion made by Tim, Seconded by Charleen**
- **No votes or Policy updates took place during this meeting.**

Topic 1: Fall Sports

- K-2 Soccer is now completed. The folks in charge of these groups are in the process of submitting write-ups of how they ran these programs for future volunteers to use and base their content off of.
- 3 / 4 Programs are wrapping up and have playoffs this upcoming weekend.
- 5 / 6 Programs are also in playoffs with the Boys in the B bracket playing in Bradford and the Girls in the C Bracket playing in Andover.
- Both the 3 / 4 and the 5 / 6 Programs went very well. All had very enjoyable and successful seasons with many saying that they wish to return.
- Steve stated last meeting that there is a lack of younger age group girls playing and that he was doing some digging as to why. Tonight he said that after speaking with some parents and coaches it is because they have committed to other activities. After some communication with parents that it was okay at that age to miss some sessions and not come to every single one, he believes that this will help the issue and increase some participation.
- There was brief discussion as to if we could add girls volleyball, however due to gym space and no leagues to join the committee has tabled the discussion for a program.

Topic 2: Turkey Trot

- Blast sign up email and Shopper advertisement are done. Email is out, Shopper will be in the next deadline.
- Going to do another email for sponsor interest, Harding Hill Farm has already stated that they will do the Gold Sponsor again.
- The Livery has been contacted for renting the space out for the event.
- Paint and Place to do L.S. T-Shirts. Thinking of going with Electric Blue for a color. Logo will be an un-used logo from last year and is ready to go.
- A question was brought up about budget and profits. Registration profits will go into the Special Recreation line which helps programming, and Sponsor profits will go into the Donations line which is used for items such as facility maintenance.
 - There was a brief discussion on budgets based off of this talking point. Steve provided an update that he is waiting on the Sunapee Seniors to decide where

they would like their funding to go. This is a 2K annual fund that does not roll over.

- Steve stated that he has been watching our events closely through the year and that will have a much better idea next year about where we need to be and what we need to be charging for our programming.
- Umpire compensation was also a part of this discussion. Steve does not anticipate umpires being an issue for basketball. It is mostly HS athletes. He believes our compensation to be competitive.

Topic 3: Warrant Articles

- Veteran's Field Phase 1 will be the same as last year but with updated wording.
- Steve provided an update that he spoke with PD in regards to moving the Skate Park. Lots of kids like to play on it, and due to it being more practical to monitor they prefer it to stay at Veterans Field. The committee agrees with this and the park will remain at Veteran's Field.
- Steve and Shannon to work on wording and structure for article on possible restructuring of Recreation Department staff.

Topic 4: Dewy Field

- The dirt will not be able to be delivered until December, which will be too late at that point to make any progress. The fencing companies are also backlogged.
- The current plan is to do the fence first thing in the spring time prior to the start of the season, then, once the season is concluded to work on the field itself. During the field work they are also going to dig trenches for eventual lighting.
- Steve stated that we are still in the process of doing research on a movable mound for Veterans.

Topic 5: Winter Basketball

- Sign-ups are live
- We will be a part of the Sugar River League
- There was some discussion about time limits and formats for the younger groups to keep them more engaged and have the sessions be more organized. Steve thought an hour would be appropriate, the committee agreed. There are also thoughts to move to a 3 on 3 format to keep the kids more engaged and get them more contact with the ball and more shots to help develop their skills more. The committee likes the idea.

Topic 6: Sign and Permit

- Charleen filed the permit with the selectmen for the sign to go up at Coffin Park for the Fit Trail. The sign is a go. She stated that after speaking with the Highway Department the sign will be installed in November.
- Charleen also mentioned that some tree work needs to be completed, not just there but in all our parks. Steve said that is one of the items that Shannon is looking into.

- Charleen also mentioned that there are no signs for Coffin Park at the top entrance, only one for the River Walk. She thought there should be some signage up there as well for the park and Fit Trail.

Topic 7: Kickboard

- Steve has completed a project with the help from the Sunapee STEAM class to update the kickboard down at Veterans Field. He is currently working on creating a tradition where the senior class can paint it each year, both as a great community event as well as to keep the board looking new and clean. This current sign will have the Sunapee S in the middle with all the elementary school class handprints on the bottom.

Topic 8: General Info / Updates

- There was brief discussion about dogs at our parks and at games. It was determined that we are okay with dogs attending parks and games but they must be leashed. Charleen stated that Town Ordinance technically reads that the dog must be in owners control at all times, but does not use the word leashed. Jesse stated that he thinks it would be better to mandate leashes at our parks and for games, and that we should be able to do that for the parks as a committee rule, and the committee agreed. Steve is going to look into signage for the parks. Jesse also asked about possible dog pick up stations at the parks. It was determined that this might encourage people to bring their dogs to the fields, and while we are okay with it, we do not want a lot of dog traffic on the fields so they do not get ruined.
- Charleen asked if we needed to discuss a new liner for the skate rink but Steve does not believe so.
- Meeting Minutes from September 2022 have been voted on and accepted.
- The committee did talk briefly about changing the meeting time as it does not fit our schedules well. Charleen is going to send out an email to poll everyone. Tuesday nights all month are wide open. Thinking 6:30 or 7PM. Time will not change for the November meeting
- Next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2022 at 5:30PM