

**TOWN OF SUNAPEE
RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
APRIL 2, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
TOWN MEETING ROOM, 23 EDGEMONT ROAD**

Members present:

Nick Grant, Chair
Charleen Osborne
Ian Kirk
Dan Whitmoyer, Vice-Chair

Attendees present:

Sophie Bourque, Rec Committee Student Representative
Brenda Balenger, prospective Committee member

Staff present:

Steve Bourque, Rec Coordinator
Shannon Martinez, Town Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Grant called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes from March 2024

Ms. Osborne moved to accept the minutes from the March 2024 Recreation Committee meeting as written. The motion was seconded by D. Whitmoyer. A vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Current Initiatives

A. New Member Interest

Ms. Osborne moved to accept Brenda Balenger as a member of the Sunapee Recreation Committee. The motion was seconded by N Grant. A vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Warrant Article Update

Chair Grant reported both warrant articles passed.

C. Scholarship Review

Mr. Bourque said the internal scholarship process has been completed and will be updated on the website. There will be a paper application form and it will also be on

OpenGov. A committee that includes a member of the Recreation Committee will be formed to review the applications. By using OpenGov, the process will be less cumbersome for applicants.

Mr. Bourque clarified that funds raised by the Turkey Trot were specifically earmarked for Veterans Field. So, they cannot be moved to the Scholarship Fund, as was approved at the last meeting. Ms. Osborne questioned if the funds from the Turkey Trot were intended for Veterans Field for the past ten years. The scholarship fund has approximately \$3,000.

The Committee discussed the need to keep better track of what funds are raised for in the future. They clarified that private donations can be made for specific programs.

D. Baseball Updates

Mr. Bourque said the teams are shy on members; if anyone is absent, there will not be 11 players. They are reserving gym time and are starting to work on the bases for Dewey and Veterans Fields.

Chalk Machine: Mr. Bourque reported he found a chalk machine for \$365. A pallet of chalk is approximately \$400, which should last longer than a year. They have enough drying agent and should be able to store it in the green shed.

Scoreboard: An ad for the scoreboard is scheduled to run that informs the public of the donations involved for the new scoreboard. Mr. Bourque appeared before the Planning Board for a site review. The scoreboard will be located where the manual sign was and will be erected during the season. They need to discuss the timeline for selling advertising.

Outfield Banners: The outfield banners will be presented at the April 15 Selectboard meeting. Some companies have expressed interest.

Mr. Whitmoyer asked if any students from Mount Royal or Newport signed up after their teams folded; Mr. Bourque said this did not happen. Mr. Whitmoyer noted that league fees have increased and asked how chalk, etc., will be paid for. Mr. Bourque explained most of the donation money was not used last year, so it is available. They have obtained some sponsorships at \$250 apiece. Mr. Bourque explained how umpires are paid.

E. Camp/Beach Update

Mr. Bourque said lots of beach staff are returning. They will be advertising for camp counselors.

F. Veterans Field Initiatives

Drainage: Ms. Osborne reviewed the history of the drainage problem and how it can be addressed. The Committee discussed whether this is a Town issue or a Recreation issue, and who should pay to remedy it. Ms. Martinez and Mr. Bourque will speak with the Highway Director and the Water & Sewer Superintendent to determine next steps.

Skate Park: The Committee discussed removing the current skate park elements and where a new skate park could be located.

Bathrooms: Mr. Bourque reported there will be handicapped-accessible Porta Potties for Dewey and Veterans Fields this season. The Committee discussed installing permanent bathrooms at Veterans Field.

State Land Recovery: The Committee discussed the issue with the section of Old Route 11 at Veterans Field, where the shed is located. The Town needs to contact the state to have them release the property back to the Town.

G. Vacant Slots

Brenda said she would like to fill the one-year slot. There are still a one-year slot and a two-year slot available. Dan Whitmoyer term expiring. He was recommended to a 3 year term.

Ms. Osborne moved that Mr. Whitmoyer move to the three-year slot at his renewal date. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken, everyone was in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Recreation Website Update

Mr. Bourque has seen the website update and is pleased with it. He has spoken with Ms. Traeger regarding creating a website for the Recreation Committee. The Committee discussed what could be included on this page.

I. Dewey Beach Stormwater Plan

Ms. Martinez reviewed the Dewey Beach stormwater management plan and noted the need to prevent sand from washing into the lake. She said they are working on how to pay for the swales and vegetation, and how to pave the area.

J. Recruitment Update

Ms. Martinez said she wants to move the recruitment forward as soon as possible and noted the steps still needed to achieve this.

K. Budget Update

Ms. Martinez reported the warrant article was integrated into the budget. The approved Rec budget is now \$266,511.85; she explained how this figure was arrived at.

L. River Clean-Up

Ms. Osborne asked about cleaning up debris on the river, which includes fencing and other structure-related debris. The Committee discussed the Town's obligation to be involved in this and any liability issues. They agreed to address this at a later date.

M. Recreation/Town Responsibilities

Ms. Martinez noted clarification is needed regarding which issues and activities are Rec related and which are Town related, and where responsibility lies. She said some ordinances need to be updated as part of this process. She reviewed the Fourth of July celebration and the possibility of a drone display replacing fireworks.

IV. Adjournment

Ms. Osborne moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kirk seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hanggeli
Recording Secretary