

**TOWN OF SUNAPEE
RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
TOWN MEETING ROOM, 23 EDMONT ROAD**

Members present:

Charleen Osborne, Chair
Ian Kirk
Nick Grant
Dan Whitmoyer

Attendees present:

Steve Bourque, Rec Coordinator
Sophie Bourque, Rec Committee Student Representative

Members of the public present:

Chris Whitehouse

I. Call to Order

Chair Osborne called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes From Last Meeting

Chair Osborne moved to accept the minutes from the last meeting as written. N. Grant seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Open Issues

1. Recreation Assessment Results

Steve Bourque reported Matt Frye plans to attend the next Committee meeting to review the results of the Recreation Assessment with the Committee and the public. The Committee discussed meeting with him via Zoom beforehand to discuss the raw data obtained.

2. LWCF Grant

Steve Bourque noted he attended a seminar at the New England Rec Conference, where he was advised that someone should have three months of time to devote to applying for this grant. The Committee discussed the possibility of hiring someone to do this.

3. Warrant Articles

i. Veterans Field Warrant Article

Chair Osborne noted this Warrant Article will be going through at \$50,000, as discussed.

ii. Full-Time Recreation Director Warrant Article

N. Grant reported this Warrant Article has the full support of the Select Board. They have tentatively earmarked \$58,000 for nine months, although they discussed that this needs to be stated in a different way. Chair Osborne stressed they need to prove why this position is needed. The Committee discussed how to do this as well as how to promote the role of recreation in the Town.

Steve Bourque noted the Rec website is being updated. They discussed how to make recreation more visible on social media.

The Committee agreed to man a table at an open gym on February 3rd and 4th to provide information about their work and recreation in general in Sunapee. They also discussed meeting with the seniors on February 26th, and possibly holding an event on February 18th.

C. Whitehouse recommended stressing the value of recreation to the residents.

4. Budget

i. Sugar River

Steve Bourque reported the balance in the Sugar River account as of November 20, 2023, was \$130,002.45. The amount approved by the Committee for Dewey Field renovation was \$38,600.00. The Turkey Trot account is almost fully reconciled. The event raised \$27,665.00, with expenses of \$8,705.06.

With the success of the Turkey Trot, the Committee discussed how to increase the number of fundraisers held each year.

ii. Special Rec Account

Steve Bourque reviewed the status of the Special Rec account.

iii. General and Rec Budgets

Steve Bourque reviewed the status of the General and the Recreation budgets. He reviewed the Recreation scholarship account and how it is funded.

V. New Business

1. Baseball/Softball

Steve Bourque said he would like to begin baseball signups before basketball ends. He reviewed revenues and expenses, and the status of sponsors. He updated the Committee on signage and the question of seeking one-year or two-year sponsors. The Select Board would need to approve any signs.

The Committee discussed the cost of baseball supplies and umpires, and how to meet those costs.

2. Recreation Coordinator Agenda Items

The Committee discussed renting a bathroom facility.

The Committee discussed hiring a recording secretary and agreed it would alleviate the Committee members having to shoulder that responsibility.

They discussed the officer positions becoming available this year. Chair Osborne will not be renewing in October and they reviewed the responsibilities of this position. They also discussed recruiting new members and the current vacancies.

The Committee agreed to change the regular meeting date, due to member availability, to the first Tuesday of the month, starting in March.

The Committee reviewed their role in directing recreation staff and the needs of the department.

Steve Bourque noted the number of high school volunteers is diminishing.

VI. Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on February 20th at 7:00 p.m.

D. Whitmoyer moved to adjourn the meeting. N. Grant seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hanggeli
Recording Secretary