

**Town of Sunapee: Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes for January 14, 2020**

- **In Attendance: Scott Blewit, Charleen Osborn, Dan Hayward, Jesse Socci. Guest: Celia Osborn**
- **Meeting called to order: 5:33PM**
- **Meeting Ended: 6:30PM**
- **No votes or policy updates took place during this meeting**

1) Guest Celia Osborn: Town Fitness Trail:

- a) Charleen introduced Celia to speak to the committee regarding her Girl Scout Bronze Award project. Celia explained that she has two different ideas for an outdoor fit / exercise trail in Sunapee. She thinks that this is something we could either put along the story walk, or it can also be something that is set up in one area like a playground concept. One is metal and the other is lumber. The cost to purchase the equipment is \$5,995 or \$5,994 for the two different options. Celia needs 20 hours of work for her Bronze Award, and is planning on contacting local business to help fundraise the money.
- b) Scott suggested that there may be multiple locations for something like this, and said we could look into the beach or veterans field.
- c) Charleen suggested that their initial thought for the project was possibly putting it at Tilton Park. She explained the fact that Celia is taking on all the leg work for this project, and that she is simply asking for support and ideas from the Recreation Committee for which system to purchase and for where we want to put the equipment.
- d) Jesse stated that this is a great idea and that there was something like this in his home town, and that it got a lot of use from gym classes, summer camps and from the community in general. It was the metal version set up playground style.
- e) Scott is in support of the idea and noted that it is important to remember that if this goes at Tilton Park it needs to go in front of the conservation commission. Scott wants to make sure we put this in a place where this is visible and will get use.
- f) Charleen asked the committee which option we think is best and that Celia needs to get formal more detailed quotes from the companies and figure out shipping / installation costs.
- g) There was also discussion about mix / matching the options rather than going with all lumber or all metal stations.
- h) Charleen said that Celia needs to complete her project by September 30th
- i) Scott stated that he wanted Celia to speak with some of the teachers at the school to see if they have any thoughts / ideas on where to place this so that the gym classes can get use out of the equipment as well as the community. Also speaking to some of the seniors in the community to see when and where they would use it.
- j) Dan suggested that he thinks the school would get the most use out of it, and he thinks Tilton Park wouldn't be great because it is not totally safe to walk from the school to Tilton Park. He suggested the River Walk as a possible idea.
- k) Scott noted that because it is over \$5,000, the Board of Selectmen will most likely have to accept the donation from Celia.
- l) Celia thanked the committee for their time. She is going to speak to some other community members and some of the school teachers for further input on her project. Overall the Recreation Committee is in full support of her project and would like to see it move forward.

2) Skating Ring Update:

- a. Nothing new to report, waiting for it to freeze up again.

3) Summer Events:

- a. July 3-5. Watermelon Race is on the 3rd. Fireworks are on the 4th. Road race on the 5th.
- b. Scott wants to build on the current events that we currently have. He has spoken with the Police Department and with Tim Fenton about possibly adding a Food Truck Festival on River Road during this holiday weekend.
- c. Scott stated that if we did this in a closed area we could charge an entry fee and the profits could go to benefit the Veterans Field Project.
- d. Scott asked if this is something that Sunapee Recreation or Friends of Recreation wants to take on. Charleen stated that the only issue with Friends of Recreation is that there is no insurance. Scott said that even if we don't do it through Friends of Recreation that he still wants Friends to be visible for donations.
- e. Scott stated that the Trail Race is going to be on the 18th and the Mountain bike race is July 26. They could not go back to back this year because of a conflicting race

4) Financial Updates and Veterans Field

- a) Scott provided an update from the Board of Selectmen. Sunapee Recreation currently has \$82,000 in the revolving fund. Scott said that this check was prior to the Turkey Trot check as well as a few other donations. In total the Revolving Fund has just over \$90K.
- b) Scott stated that we have \$12,500 in the Veterans Field Trust Fund.
- c) Charleen asked what the next steps are in the Veterans Field process since we now know that the school will not be using the area.
- d) Scott said that we really need more money first – noted that in the past we have aimed for \$150K to start Phase 1 of the project.
- e) Charleen stated that she has an additional \$1,700 from mailing donations from Friends of Recreation. She is going to mail out thank you letters to all donors.
- f) Scott would like to see Friends of Recreation do a Duck Race and a Bingo – easy ways to raise money for Veterans Field.
- g) Jesse asked about Friends of Recreation doing one of the discount card fundraiser for Veterans Field.
- h) Scott also added that merchandise is a great way to fundraise and that he was going to do the mugs again.

5) General Updates

- a) Scott said that Foss & O'Neil is having a hard time with the state on the after the fact permit for Georges Mills. Scott explained that we would get Donna and the selectmen on board if needed to help push the application through.
- b) Scott said that Open Gym has been going well.