

TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

Recreation Commission Minutes

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: February 5, 2024

Call to Order - 6:00 p.m.

In attendance – Chairman Rick Faulconer, Selectman Matt Burrill Ex Officio, Vice Chairman Christine Kuzmitski, Joe Simone, Sue Mears, Amanda Aiello, and Patricia Masterson (recording Minutes).

Approval of the Minutes

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to approve the Minutes for January 8, 2024. Mr. Simone seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously. There were no Minutes for January 22, 2024 as we did not have a quorum to meet.**

School Vacation Movie

A discussion was held about having a movie day during school vacation (April 22 – 26). Vice Chair Kuzmitski has been in touch with the Salisbury Cinema. The cost would be $10 per person. The Commission discussed subsidizing the event at $5 per person, capped at 50 people. Individuals would pay $5. The Commission would have to choose a (G) movie. Ms. Masterson contacted the Library and they are not holding any activities during that week.

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to allocate $250 for 50 people to attend a movie at the Salisbury Cinema during April vacation. Individuals will pay $5 per person. Vice Chair Kuzmitski seconded the Motion which passed unanimously.** **Faulconer – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Mears – aye; Simone – aye; Burrill – aye.**

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2024 Events

The Recreation Commission has begun planning events for 2024. We will continue with past events: (Memorial Day (May 27); Town Beach opening (June 1); Yard Sale (May 11); Senior Trip (August 20); Senior BBQ (September 12); Olde Home Day (September 14); Yard Sale (October 12); Trunk or Treat (October 19); Veterans Day (November 11); Senior Luncheon (December 10); and Holiday Tree Lighting (December 1).

* Ms. Aiello suggested holding a Town-wide scarecrow event. She spoke to the Plaistow Exchange Club to gather information about their scarecrow event. Residents would build their own scarecrows, which they would purchase from the Recreation Commission. Sacks for the scarecrow head are $4-$6 per kit. Sticks are also needed to support the head and body.

Plaistow sells the kits for $25. The burlap heads cost $80.86 per 100, and the wood frames are $1.58 apiece.

A suggestion is to start initially selling the kits at Olde Home Day and continue through October. We will need to decide on prizes – maybe most creative, most original or most Newton-related?

**Mr. Simone made a Motion to spend $200 for scarecrow kits and supplies. Chairman Faulconer seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **Faulconer – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Mears – aye; Simone – aye; Burrill – aye.**

* Ms. Connors had suggested holding a self-defense class. Ms. Aiello will search for an instructor to hold a class at the Town Hall in April.
* Ms. Connors had suggested a nature walk. Ms. Masterson will contact the Conservation Commission to see if they could guide a group through the Peanut Trail.
* Mr. Simone is working on details to hold a corn hole tournament.
* Ms. Masterson suggested holding drop-in tennis instruction at Greenie Park for two hours per week from July 9 – August 13. An instructor would be $17 per hour and require a Cory check.
* Ms. Masterson suggested holding drop-in volleyball at the Town Beach from August 6 – 27. A coordinator would be $17 an hour and require a Cory check.
* Ms. Aiello will research details for holding a decorate-Newton-homes-for Christmas contest.
* Ms. Kuzmitski will research a Senior trip to Encore.

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Beach Sand

The Town is limited to a Minimum Impact Replenishment of sand at the Town Beach by the Water Division/Land Resources Management Wetlands Bureau. More than 10 yards places the petitioner into a Maximum Impact category, which would not be permitted for the Town Beach. A permit from the NHDES for 10 yards of sand for the Town Beach is $400. The sand in 2019 from Landscapers Depot was approximately $600.

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to spend $400 for an application to add 10 yards of sand to the Town Beach. Mr. Simone seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **Faulconer – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Mears – aye; Simone – aye; Burrill – aye.**

Motor for Town Beach

Kevin Brown, who has diligently placed the raft and ropes in the Town Beach and removed them, suggested purchasing a motor to make it easier for the boat to pull the raft. Mr. Simone will talk to the Fire Chief about purchasing a reasonably sized motor.

Adjournment

**Ms. Mears made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:20 p.m. Vice Chair Kuzmitski seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

Next Meeting

February 19, in the Large Room at the Town Hall, at 6:00 p.m. will be the next meeting of the Recreation Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson, Secretary

*Posted on 2/20/2024 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.*