

 TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

 *Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

 *Newton, NH 03858*

Date: February 4, 2019

Call to Order - 7:00 pm

In attendance – Chairman Stephen St. Cyr, Matthew Burrill (representing Selectmen), Christine Kuzmitski, William Harding, Rick Faulconer (Guest), and Patricia Masterson (recording minutes)

Approval of Minutes

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to approve the Minutes for January 8, 2018, and Ms. Kuzmitski seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved with no discussion.**

Resignation

Alternate Laura LaMontagne submitted her resignation.

Warrant Articles

The Board of Selectmen approved Warrant articles for Senior outings and Lifeguards. The Warrant articles will be voted on by the Town on March 12, 2019. There are questions about how the Lifeguards Warrant will be implemented if passed. We may be able to approach the schools for applicants, and then set up training through the Red Cross. Could it be organized through the Fire Department and their safety protocols? Applicants could pay the training fees, and the Town would reimburse them. Vice Chairman Vanessa Burrill has a contact in the school Athletics Department. Depending on funding, we could post advertisements in the local papers. Selectman Burrill will research the project.

Christmas Tree Bonfire

Chairman St. Cyr received a request through Facebook to hold a Winter bonfire to burn residents’ Christmas trees. Someone is needed to organize the event, determine a location and work with the Fire Department. The Town of Merrimac does one on a ball field. Chairman St. Cyr will follow up.

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Country Pond Boat Ramp

The Conservation Commission asked if the Recreation Commission will be refurbishing the Country Pond Boat Ramp, which is eroding. The Recreation Commission does not believe it is their responsibility. The Conservation Commission may be able to use the sand permit obtained by the Recreation Commission for adding sand to the beach. They also would like to receive the water sample reports from the Recreation Commission during the summer. The Conservation Commission will be working with the Country Pond Association to evaluate the health of the Pond. Ms. Masterson will ask Town Administrator Nancy Wrigley about the water sample reports.

The Conservation Commission also asked who posts announcements on the sign board at the boat ramp. A key is needed to open the glass sign board. Ms. Masterson will contact Diane Morin, Board of Selectmen Secretary, and the Police Chief.

New England Sports Park

New England Sports Park is closed for tubing. Last year, the Recreation Commission had a contract with the sports park to allow Newton residents to tube for a discount. The Sports Park has not reimbursed $280 for the unused discount tickets. Chairman St. Cyr will follow up on the payment.

Jingle Bell Run Recap

The Jingle Bell Run was popular and well attended. Some 25 runners participated, and there were onlookers and volunteers. The consensus is to continue the event in December. The moisture wick tee-shirts were well liked, and the design is very appealing.

More advertising is needed, and more mile marker signs. The Toys for Tots collection needs to be coordinated not to clash with other Toys for Tots events.

Memorial Day

We will begin a search for a marching band for the Memorial Day parade, beginning with the school bands. Last year, the school could not provide a full band.

Chief Jewett will be asked to prepare the parade route and retain necessary permits. Mike Pivero will be asked to arrange for an Honor Guard and someone to play taps at the cemetery.

An email needs to be sent to Veterans at Sargent Woods. A letter will be sent from Selectman Burrill to all businesses and organizations to march in the parade.

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300 flags should be purchased to hand out at the parade. Programs need to be printed for distribution at the cemetery and at the Fire Station.

The Fire Department Auxiliary will be asked to provide refreshments.

Senior Summer Trip

Ms. Kuzmitski is reviewing venues for the Senior Summer Trip. She will reach out to low income housing residents and the Gale Library for ideas. The Warrant Article calls for $4500 in funding for the trip. Ms. Kuzmitski is looking into venues, such as Hart’s Turkey Farm, North Shore Music, Essex, Gloucester and Rockport tour, Essex River cruise, Hobo Railroad, and Conway Railroad.

Red Sox World Series Trophy

Selectman Burrill is working with the Red Sox organization to have the World Series trophy displayed in Newton.

New Member

Rick Faulconer has expressed interest in becoming an Alternate for the Recreation Commission. He will go through background check steps and inform the Commission of the results.

Adjournment

**Mr. Harding made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Ms. Kuzmitski seconded the Motion. The Motion was unanimously approved.**

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON March 4, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the REAR of the TOWN HALL.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson

Recreation Commission Secretary