

 TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

 *Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

 *Newton, NH 03858*

Date: May 20, 2019

Call to Order - 7:05 pm

In attendance –Chairman Vanessa Burrill, Matthew Burrill (representing Selectmen), Rick Faulconer, William Harding, Stephen St. Cyr, Chief Jewett (Guest), Mike Pivero (Guest), Chief Alcaidinho (Guest), Board of Selectman Secretary Diane Morin (Guest), Erin Stevens (Guest) and Patricia Masterson (recording minutes).

Approval of Minutes

**Mr. St. Cyr made a Motion to approve the Minutes for April 15, 2019, and Mr. Faulconer seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved.**

Memorial Day

The Grand Marshal will be members of Robert S. Donovan’s family. Participants will include VFW Post 1088 and Kingston Veterans Club, VFW Auxiliary, KVC Auxiliary, State Senator Tom Sherman, State Representative Charles Melvin, State Representative Ken Weyler, State Representative Deb Hobson, Newton Board of Selectmen – Lisa L. Gonyer, Chairman; James L. Doggett, Vice Chairman; Matthew A. Burrill, Lawrence B. Foote, and Kate Michaels – Master of Ceremonies Robert Dezmelyk, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America, Newton Baseball and Softball Association, North Shore Bank of Newton, Newton Fire Department, Newton Police Department, Empower Martial Arts, Pastor Timothy S. Griffin, and Dearborn Company.

Participants will meet at the Fire Station on 8 Merrimac Road.

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to spend not more than $100 for the Fire Department to provide coffee and doughnuts for Parade participants. Mr. Harding seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved.**

Chief Jewett will contact the Merrimac Chief to block off a section of Route 108. The Parade will step off at 9:45 a.m. because the route is slightly longer than last year. No Color Guard is available this year. Volunteers will park at Memorial School and will be shuttled to the Fire Station.

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Ms. Morin will provide Cable access and music at the Whittier Street Cemetery. Generators will be used at the Cemetery. A canopy may be needed. Mr. Pivero will deliver chairs. Ms. Masterson will bring small flags for distribution along the Parade route. Programs will be distributed at the Whittier Street Cemetery.

Greenie Park

Erin Stevens attended the meeting to ask about making upgrades to the Greenie Park playground. There has been interest from Newton residents to create a GoFundMe page or a Friends of the Recreation Commission group to buy playground equipment. She has researched equipment from Swings and Things, but it is not commercial equipment.

Research is needed to:

* Work with the Recreation Commission on equipment and parking;
* Insurance regulations;
* Nonprofit classification, including creating a Board with Minutes, Bylaws and bank accounts;
* Inquiring about the Plaistow Friends of the Recreation Commission, Friends of the Gale Library and the PTO about how they structure their nonprofits.

Olde Home Day – Saturday, September 14, 11a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Faulconer will take charge of recruiting and organizing vendors for Olde Home Day. The cost is $25 per table, and Nonprofit organizations are free. Generators are not allowed. No electricity will be provided to vendors. Donations are also needed for raffle items. The items should be advertised in advance to draw people to the event. Mr. Faulconer will post information on Facebook and the Recreation Commission website. Sponsorship levels are $500 for Platinum and $100 for Gold. We will work on a big-ticket item, such as last year’s grill from Home Depot.

The Commission is interested in having Red Sox Wally attend Olde Home Day again this year. The cost is $657 (includes travel) for two hours. Ms. Masterson will make the arrangements.

**Chairman Burrill made a Motion to hire Red Sox Wally for Olde Home Day at a cost of $657 (includes travel). Mr. St. Cyr seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved.**

Two portable toilets – one handicap and one regular - are needed for Olde Home Day. Ms. Masterson will arrange for them to be delivered.

**Chairman Burrill made a Motion to reserve two portable toilets for Olde Home Day for $270. Mr. St. Cyr seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved.**

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Monitors are needed for the bouncy equipment at Olde Home Day. They should be on the Town payroll and Cory checked.

**Chairman Burrill made a Motion to hire three monitors for the bouncy equipment at $20 per hour for a total of $300. Mr. Harding seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved.**

**Chairman Burrill made a Motion to rent three different bouncy games for not more than $800. Mr. Harding seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved.**

Chief Jewett will arrange for a Police Dog trainer show. The Police Department will provide a dunk tank. Other activities will include a hot dog vendor, Tomas the Artist, and a Mexican taco truck. Selectman Burrill will arrange the bands and sound system. This year a program will be printed with the entertainment schedule, sponsor ads and raffle prizes. Perhaps a sponsor would fund the printing of the programs?

**Chairman Burrill made a Motion to hire a sound system engineer for $700. Mr. Harding seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved.**

Suggestions from last year:

* Set up vendors around the field with the dance floor and PA system in the middle. The PA system has an eight-hour battery and may not have to be near outlets.
* The bouncy houses should not be on the cement.
* The bands should be on the grass. They do need a canopy.
* Meet with the school’s maintenance team to think strategically about using the electrical circuits so they are not overloaded. Selectman Burrill will talk to school representatives about access to the school since police officers are there all day and can monitor who goes in.
* The raffle was very successful but needs more volunteers. There were 10 raffle baskets.
* More volunteers are needed for breakdown and cleanup. Volunteers should be recruited months ahead of the event for specific tasks.
* Chalk paint is not needed for vendors. They can be lined up as they arrive.
* The dunk tank water was pooling in the playground and seeping towards the bands’ electrical equipment.
* Overall, people liked the location and the ample parking. We may want to consider varying the activities next year and having new activities. The bouncy houses are very popular. The food vendors are popular. Maybe a drone demonstration? We could ask the sheriff.

We need to advertise the big-ticket raffle item earlier.

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$958 was raised from the raffle; $300 more than last year. The money funded the Newton Food Pantry and 68 Hours of Hunger.

Senior Cookout – September 13 – 4:00 p.m.

The cookout will be from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Door prizes will be raffled at 5:00 p.m. The tickets will also be their raffle tickets. Mr. Harding will arrange for the guitar player, and Selectman Burrill will arrange for the sound system. Selectman Burrill will work with the Board of Selectmen Secretary to arrange for the canopy. We need fly traps.

Country Pond

The Motion of April 15, 2019 for $200 for raft floats to replace the damaged ones on the dock was insufficient and was amended to meet the updated invoice from Amazon.

**Mr. St. Cyr made a Motion to amend the approved Motion of April 15, 2019, for $200. The Motion is to pay $451.39 for two floats to repair the dock at Country Pond. Selectman Burrill seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

Mr. St. Cyr will contact Chief Jewett to discuss having prisoners clean up the Country Pond Beach.

Mr. St. Cyr will also send emails to students he met at the Sanborn School Lifeguards presentation.

Mr. St. Cyr reported that there is an abandoned rowboat at Country Pond Beach. He will contact Chief Jewett for help with removal. The Recreation Commission agreed with this action.

Lake Host Program

The Recreation Commission will not fund water sampling and testing this year for Country Pond as the Department of Environmental Services has determined the Pond “clean” for this year. The Recreation Commission had budgeted $180 for water testing. The Country Pond Lake Association with the NH Lakes Association will be operating a Lake Host Program at the Country Pond boat ramp to inform and educate boaters about invasive species. The Recreation Commission agreed to provide the $180 to the Lake Host Program for their work in keeping Country Pond clean.

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to provide the Country Pond Lake Host Program with $180 to educate and inform boaters about invasive species. Mr. Faulconer seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously. Ms. Masterson will inform the Bookkeeper of the Motion.**

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Yard Sale – June 8 – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Masterson and Mr. Harding will work on updating the Yard Sale signs from last year. Mr. Harding and Mr. Faulconer will distribute the signs for the June 8 Town-wide Yard Sale. Ms. Masterson will post yard salers’ addresses on the Recreation Commission website and Facebook. She will also arrange for the information to be posted on the marquees at the Town Hall and the old Police Station.

Adjournment

**Chairman Burrill made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Harding seconded the Motion. The Motion was unanimously approved.**

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON June 3, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rear of the TOWN HALL.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson

Recreation Commission Secretary