

 TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

 Recreation Commission

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: April 17, 2023

Call to Order - 7:00 pm.

In attendance – Chairman Rick Faulconer, Vice Chairman Christine Kuzmitski, Selectman Matt Burrill, Peggy Connors, Sue Mears, Joe Simone, and Patricia Masterson (recording Minutes). Guests – John Silvia, Road Agent Mike Pivero, and Fire Chief John Alcaidinho.

Approval of the Minutes

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to approve the Minutes of April 3, 2023. Selectman Matt Burrill seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously****.**

Voting

Chairman Faulconer appointed Ms. Mears as a Voting Member for this Meeting.

Memorial Day

The parade with antique cars, military vehicles and Police and Fire vehicles will begin at the safety complex at 10 a.m. Mr. Pivero noted that the route last year passed by every cemetery in Town. Marchers will join the vehicles at Packer Meadows or Highland Cemetery before the ceremony at Willow Grove Cemetery. Radio communication between the vehicles and marchers is needed. The participation of antique cars and motorcycles is weather dependent.

Extensive publicity is needed to inform residents about the route and the Willow Grove commemoration. Signs will be ordered, and Facebook, Cable, and Carriage Town News will be contacted. We need to create a program, find a pastor to do the invocation, choose a Grand Marshal, and contact the Cable Committee about sound at Willow Grove.

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Greenie Park

John Silvia attended the Meeting to discuss the baseball and softball fields at Greenie Park. Members of the group did a cleanup on April 15. Landscaping is needed for the field, and a new roof is needed for the building. Town Custodian Mark Boscht has looked at the building, and he needs estimates and contacts to move forward with repairs. Mr. Silvia will discuss plans with the Baseball/Softball Board of Directors.

Skate Park

Paul Murray has been instrumental in raising $26,420 to upgrade the Skate Park at Greenie Park. He has applied for grants the last three years, but the grants were mainly given to urban areas. He reported that the skate area is approximately 50 by 100 feet. The asphalt has many cracks and is a hazard especially for small skateboards. It has deteriorated over the years. Rebars are exposed, also.

Mr. Simone reported that Primex, Newton’s insurance company, will be meeting with interim Town Administrator Jim O’Mara to discuss the condition of the skate park. Mr. Murray will contact the Town Administrator to find out the insurance company’s assessment.

Touch a Truck

Mr. Simone will coordinate a Touch a Truck event on September 17, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event would display fire trucks, ambulance, police car, bulldozer, excavator, and other types of trucks. Primex will need to be contacted to understand the Town insurance details. Ms. Masterson has submitted forms to the Memorial School Facilities Manager. The event will be advertised separately from Olde Home Day.

Town-wide advertising

The Recreation Commission would like to notify Town residents about their events for the entire 2023 year. Initially, a postcard or magnet mailing was discussed but the cost would be too much for this year’s budget. Ms. Connors researched the cost for sandwich boards to be placed at the Transfer Station and the Town Hall. The boards will be waterproof and be able to remain stable in the wind. The sandwich boards could be moved to events such as the Memorial Day commemoration. Ms. Connors has priced two boards from Fast Signs at $130 each.

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**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to purchase two sandwich boards from Fast Signs not to exceed $310 with posters. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously**. **Faulconer – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Burrill – aye; Connors – aye; Mears – aye.**

Olde Home Day

The Recreation Commission designated September 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Olde Home Day. The Senior BBQ will be September 14. Mr. Simone is coordinating details for a Touch a Truck event on September 17.  With three events in a week, we will need many more volunteers.

Ms. Connors will ask the face painter and balloon artist for an invoice for their participation at Olde Home Day. Mr. Simone contacted C&M Stables and they will offer pony rides. Ms. Masterson will contact the Town Administrator to ask if pony rides are covered under Primex insurance.

Senior Trip

Vice Chairman Kuzmitski is working with Royal Tours to organize the Senior Trip for Summer. The trip may be to the Ogunquit Playhouse with lunch at Jonathan’s or Warrens Lobster House. The cost for individuals will be $75. The Recreation Commission will pay an additional $75 per person from the Town Warrant Article.

Earth Day

A cleanup of the Town Beach at Country Pond will be held on April 22, 2023, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for Earth Day.

Fitness Classes

Jim Ryan led Fitness Classes in the Town hall for the past five weeks. He would like to continue with the classes and add exercise balls, stretch bands and maybe weights to the regimen. He will present the Recreation Commission with his plans.

Adjournment

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:15 p.m. Vice Chair Kuzmitski seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

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 Next Meeting

May 1, 2023, in the Large Room at the Town Hall, at 7:00 p.m. will be the next meeting of the Recreation Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson, Secretary

*Posted on 5/2/2023 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.*