

 TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

 Recreation Commission Minutes

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: December 4, 2023

Call to Order - 6:00 p.m.

In attendance – Chairman Rick Faulconer, Selectman Matt Burrill Ex Officio, Peggy Connors, Joe Simone, Sue Mears, and Patricia Masterson (recording Minutes).

Approval of the Minutes

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to approve the Minutes for November 20, 2023 with a change to the date of the next meeting from December 20 to December 4, 2023. Mr. Simone seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

Senior Holiday Luncheon

The Senior Holiday Luncheon will be held at the Roma Restaurant, 29 Middlesex Street, Haverhill, on December 12 at noon. The registration was sold out. No waiting list was taken.

The buffet room can hold 45 people. The buffet will be $36.83 per person for a total of $1,657.35. $90 will be spent on candy gift items.

Due to the popularity of the event, a suggestion was made to have the Senior Holiday Luncheon at a hall like Country Pond Fish & Game or Memorial School (on a weekend). The luncheon could be catered at less expense and more people could participate.

Dukes Corner Store will provide a special holiday lunch for Packer Meadows. Vice Chair Kuzmitski is working with Dukes Corner Store on delivering the lunch for 28 people. An invoice is needed soon to pay for the event by the end of the year. Selectman Burrill will contact What’s the Scoop to see if they will provide ice cream. Ms. Connors has cookies.

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Tree Lighting

The tree lighting event in front of the Newton Historical Building was a huge success. Despite the rain, we entertained some 60 guests. If the weather is clear next year, we should expect 100 guests. We collected a full box for the food pantry and a full box for Toys for Tots.

Next year, we will need a portable toilet and more outdoor tables. We handed out ornaments, temporary fun tattoos, glow sticks, hot chocolate, candy canes and cookies.

Thank you’s will go to John Silvia and Mike Pivero for setting up and decorating the tree, North Shore Bank and Estabrooks for providing parking, Andrew Deardoff as Santa, Dave Simpson for pop-up tents and giveaways, and Bill Landry for opening the building.

Newton 275th Celebration

Mr. Simone reported on the progress of the Newton 275th Anniversary Committee. The proposed dates for events are: September 13 – movie and bbq; September 14 – combine with Olde Home Day and evening dance; and September 15 – parade and fireworks. There is a Christmas gathering at the community center on December 16, from noon to 4 p.m. There will be food, raffles, fundraisers, and Santa Claus at 2:30 p.m.

Fitness Classes

Jim Ryan has done a great job building a fitness program that draws 12-15 people per week on Tuesdays in the Town Hall. The Recreation Commission will send him a thank you letter.

Other Business

Next year, the Recreation Commission will try to build a *Special Volunteer Ops Team* to engage volunteers in events.

All Requests for Payments and bills need to be submitted by December 18 to be paid in 2023.

The January 8 meeting of the Recreation Commission will be for 2024 planning and strategy. We will also try to take a group photo.

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Adjournment

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Mears seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

Next Meeting

January 8, 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 1/9/2023 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.*