

 TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

 *Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: March 1, 2021

Call to Order - 7:00 pm – this Meeting was a Zoom Call.

 Chairman Rick Faulconer - As Chairman of the Recreation Commission for the Town of Newton NH, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor’s Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically. Please note that there is no physical location to observe or listen contemporaneously to this meeting which was authorized pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are: Utilizing Zoom Conference Call for this electronic meeting. All members of the Commission have the ability to communicate during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through accessing the Meeting ID number – 86868185090. Or using the phone number provided here: 646-558-8656. We previously gave the notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting. In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

In attendance – Chairman Rick Faulconer, Selectman Matthew Burrill, Peggy Connors, Vanessa Burrill, William Harding, and Patricia Masterson (recording minutes).

Approval of the Minutes

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to approve the Minutes of February 1, 2021. Mr. Harding seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **(Ms. Connors – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Mr. Harding - aye)**

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Winter Essay Contest

A Winter Essay contest was held for Grades 3 through 12. There were three contests: Grades 3 through 5, Grades 6 through 8, and Grades 9 through 12. Topics included: What was the best and worst part of doing your schoolwork from home; Who do you recognize as a hero or heroes during the pandemic; and Why is it still important to commemorate Memorial Day? Announcements were posted on Facebook, Carriage Towne News, Town Cable Station, and the Recreation Commission website by Ms. Connors and Ms. Masterson. The Recreation Commission received six essays, which will be sent to the Board of Selectmen for their review on March 16, 2021.

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to approve going forward with a Winter Essay Contest and awarding $50 Amazon gift cards for First Place winners in each grade category, and $25 Amazon gift cards for Second Place winners in each grade category. Chairman Faulconer seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**  **(Ms. Connors – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Mr. Harding - aye)**

Dropbox

Recreation documents will now be housed in Dropbox. Ms. Masterson will send an invitation to each Recreation Commission Member as a test. Members will let her know if they are unable to access Dropbox.

Town Master Plan

The Newton Master Plan Steering Committee requests that all Town boards and committees complete reports for their future plans. The Recreation Commission oversees Greenie Park, the Town boat launch, and the Town Beach. Ms. Masterson will work with Selectman Burrill to develop the plans according to the guidelines set by the Planning Board. The draft will be sent to Recreation Commission members before a final report is sent to the Master Plan Steering Committee. The Master Plan Steering Committee is working on a survey to be sent to all Town residents to determine what residents would like to see for the future of the Town.

Reminder

Town Elections will be held on March 9, 2021.

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Adjournment

**Mr. Harding made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:49 p.m. Chairman Faulconer seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **(Ms. Connors – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Mr. Harding - aye)**

 Next Meeting

April 5, 2021 is the next meeting of the Recreation Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson, Secretary, Recreation Commission

*Posted on 4/6/2021 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.*