

TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

*Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: April 5, 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 – 86870141033. 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, Vice Chairman Christine Kuzmitski, Peggy Connors, Vanessa Burrill, Scott Dole (guest),Paul Murray (guest) and Patricia Masterson (recording minutes).

Approval of the Minutes

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

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Lifeguards

Captain Scott Dole presented kickoff details for the upcoming Lifeguard season at the Town Beach at Country Pond. At the end of last summer, two Lifeguards indicated that they would be returning and two Lifeguards indicated that they would not be returning for 2021. A job posting is needed to recruit more Lifeguards for Summer 2021. The start date for Lifeguard coverage will be May 26, and the season will run until the end of August, Wednesdays through Sundays. Coverage will be 80 hours a week, with two Lifeguards on duty from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. each day.

Starting pay for new Lifeguards will be $14.21. Returning Lifeguards will be paid $14.46 if approved by the Board of Selectmen.

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to post Want Ads to recruit Lifeguards using last year’s text for any outlets that offer free advertising, such as Facebook, the Town Cable Station, the Recreation and Town websites, and Craigs List. Chairman Faulconer seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**  **(Ms. Connors – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Vice Chair Kuzmitski – aye; Ms. Burrill – aye)**

Vice Chair Kuzmitski and Ms. Connors will look into posting the Want Ads at University of New Hampshire.

Captain Dole will train the Lifeguards the week before the opening of the Lifeguard schedule. He will check to see if we still have enough sanitizer and masks. The Covid19 regulations sign is in good shape and does not have to be replaced. The raft ladder needs to be replaced as it is bent and cracked. Ms. Masterson will search for a new ladder company. She will also order portable toilets for the season.

Captain Dole requested a Simulaids Rescue Timmy to train the Lifeguards on rescuing children. He also requested four Adult/Infant Guard Hip Pack Kits for CPR.

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to spend not more than $300 for a Simulaids Rescue Timmy and four Adult/Infant Guard Hip Pack Kits. Vice Chair Kuzmitski seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **(Ms. Connors – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Vice Chair Kuzmitski – aye; Ms. Burrill – aye)**

Captain Dole inquired if the Lifeguard budget could be included in the Recreation Commission budget or as a separate department to eliminate proposing a Town Warrant Article each year. Selectman Burrill suggested that the Recreation Commission and Captain Dole discuss the issue in November in preparation for the Town Deliberative Session.

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Skate Park

Paul Murray presented an update for the Skateboard area at Greenie Park. The Town Warrant Article for the Skateboard Park passed for $10,000. Mr. Murray is researching approaches to starting the project. One idea is to use the existing structures and rebuild. This approach will eliminate the cost of removal. He presented photos and drew to scale a Skate Park that has better flow and repairs the crumbling barrier between the Playground and the Skateboard area. He also priced rebar at a discount on Facebook. When he connected with Pillar Design, they quoted $200,000 for a 3D rendering.

Selectman Burrill suggested that Mr. Murray contact Mike Pivero, Road Agent, to discuss the approach for rebuilding the Skateboard Park. Volunteers could be recruited but the insurance coverage for the Town would have to be reviewed.

Mr. Murray is thinking of fundraising ideas, guided by the Friends of Newton Recreation:

* Anchor Pizza would have a pizza truck to sell pizza at the Skateboard Park.
* Sell custom in shirts and mugs.
* Place donation cans in local stores.

Yard Sale

The Town-wide Yard Sale will be held on May 15, 2021, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ms. Masterson will advertise the event and list postings. The Recreation Commission has masks available from last year’s yard sale, which will be distributed to participants. New signage is needed.

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to spend not more than $200 for Town-wide Yard Sale signs. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **(Ms. Connors – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Vice Chair Kuzmitski – left the meeting; Ms. Burrill – aye)**

Memorial Day

Selectman Burrill suggested that Memorial Day may be held with social distancing and masks. We will need to work with Trisha McCarthy to be in accordance with the Governor’s regulations on Covid19. If the event cannot be held in person, the Cable Committee will be asked if we can once again do a virtual event. Ms. Masterson will ask Amanda Wentworth, winner of the Memorial Day Essay Contest, if she is available to read her essay.

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Olde Home Day

The Recreation Commission would like to hold a modified Olde Home Day this year, keeping with social distancing and mask guidelines. Ms. Connors will contact a volunteer from Sargent Woods to plan the Car Show. There will be no bouncy houses but entertainment, and raffles might be held. The Recreation Commission will hold a brainstorming meeting on May 17 to plan the event. Chairman Faulconer will manage the event. Ms. Burrill will send out a Facebook message asking Newton residents for ideas about this year’s Olde Home Day.

Adjournment

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:30 p.m. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **(Ms. Connors – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Ms. Burrill - aye)**

Next Meeting

April 19, 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.*