

 TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

 *Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: June 21, 2021

Call to Order - 7:00 pm.

In attendance – Chairman Rick Faulconer, Selectman Matthew Burrill, Vice Chairman Christine Kuzmitski, Peggy Connors, William Harding, Sue Mears, and Patricia Masterson (recording minutes).

Approval of the Minutes

**Vice Chair Kuzmitski made a Motion to approve the Minutes of June 7, 2021. Chairman Faulconer seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously****.**

Olde Home Day

The tentative date for Olde Home Day is September 18, 2021. Ms. Masterson will contact the schools to get permission to use the school grounds.

Ms. Masterson will revise vendor and raffle donations flyers.

Ms. Connors contacted Ravensberger, and there will be no conflict with their annual puzzle sale. Ms. Masterson will contact Sanborn Regional to see when their Homecoming date will be. Selectman Burrill will find out the date of the Kingston Brewfest.

Activities will include music, a car show, food vendors, a raffle, and possibly Red Sox Wally and games. Community entertainment will be determined at a later date. We will need a big-ticket item for the raffle. Selectman Burrill suggested a solo stove smokeless firepit or a Yeti cooler. Proceeds from the raffle will be donated to Sixty Eight Hours of Hunger and the Newton Food Pantry.

Ms. Connors spoke to Paul Cavaro about organizing a car show. There is a Facebook page for car shows. Do we want people to register their cars for judging purposes? Do we want a Best in Show award? Should we have judges or solicit rankings from the public? We will need signs the day of the event. Selectman Burrill will talk to Mike Pivero to determine how many cars to expect. He will ask Police to cone off the car show area.

*Recreation Commission, June 21, 2021, Minutes, Page 2*

Ms. Connors and Ms. Masterson will work on marketing to draw volunteers to help with Olde Home Day.

Town Beach

The raft is still on the sand at the Town Beach. We have no volunteers to put it in the water. Ms. Masterson purchased 100 feet of chain and 17 u bolts for the project. A lifeguard and Scott Dole put in the ropes. The Recreation rowboat is no longer viable as it leaks. The Recreation Commission will need to purchase or procure another rowboat.

Senior Outings

Vice Chair Kuzmitski is researching possibilities for Senior activities. She contacted Packer Meadows, and they think a delivered meal would be the best activity as not many residents are able to travel.

She reported that the trip prices are expensive. The Recreation Commission has $4500 in Warrant Article funds. Initial per-person costs may be:

Boston Duck Tour - $117 for lunch and transportation

Mt. Washington - $115 for boat cruise and Castle in the Clouds tour

Foxwoods - $95 with lunch

Winnipesaukee railroad - $108 with lunch at the Turkey Farm

A bus will hold 52 people. The last Senior trip was $35 per person. We may have to raise the price to $45 or $50 per person. Vice Chair Kuzmitski will continue her research and cost evaluation.

Watershed Management

Newton has an opportunity to take advantage of potential stormwater projects at the Newton Boat Launch and the Town Beach, which are under the purview of the Recreation Commission. The Watershed Management Bureau of the NH Department of Environmental Services has available matching grants to stop erosion and prevent environmental problems in resources, such as Country Pond.

If the Town would help with a 40% match in cash or in-kind services, such as volunteer help, labor, machine time and materials, the DES will match the 60%.

*Recreation Commission, June 21,2021, Minutes, Page 3*

Alicia Robinson Geilen of the Conservation Commission is helping to organize a Town-wide effort to show the DES that we are in favor of pursuing the grants. She is reaching out to all Boards and Commissions to ask for letters of support to show Newton’s solidarity in this effort. Would the Recreation Commission send their support?

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion for Ms. Masterson to draft a letter of support for the Watershed Management grant program related to the Country Pond Town Beach and Boat Launch. Selectman Burrill seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

Adjournment

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:15 p.m. Mr. Harding seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

 Next Meeting

July 12, 2021, at 7pm, is the next meeting of the Recreation Commission. This is an in-person meeting in the big room at the Town Hall. We need a quorum to meet in person.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson, Secretary, Recreation Commission

*Posted on 7/13/2021 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.*