

 TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

 *Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: April 4, 2022

Call to Order - 7:00 pm.

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

Approval of the Minutes

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to approve the Minutes of March 7, 2022. Vice Chair Kuzmitski seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously****.**

Greenie Park Baseball Season

Resident concerns about the baseball/softball parking, trash and portable toilets have been sent to the Recreation Commission and the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen will address the issues. These are comments from the Newton Sanborn Baseball/Softball Association President Anthony Scafidi about Show New England, a for-profit organization that coordinates activities for the Newton Sanborn BSA.

*They are not tournament games (Show New England). They are regular season games that the Show New England has for their season. Each team plays two games on one day during the weekend only because the kids on their teams play for rec leagues in their own towns. So there weren't tournaments, just six teams at one time playing at the field. They had three teams play two games in the morning then three teams play two games in the afternoon vs other organizations so there were 12 teams there throughout the day which made it look like there was a tournament going on. Show New England is a for-profit organization.*

*I can make it clear to them that trash needs to be taken out at the end of each game and I will make sure bags are available for them to use at each set of games. I have organized it with Kingston to use their fields as well so I am going to ask them to not have three games going on at the same time at the park and have two in Newton and two in Kingston. This will cut*

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*back on the traffic at the locations. They will not be using the fields until we are given permission to use them. I do not know who makes that decision if there is someone from the town or if the BSA would make that call.*

*I do want to mention that they have been very helpful for our organization the last three years. They have given back to us; free training for coaches and clinics for our players. They have gotten us equipment when needed and discounted rates at indoor facilities that they have agreements with so that we can have practice during the winter. Show New England came in last year and did all of the weeding and edging of the infields in all the fields at Greenie Park last spring to make sure the fields were ready to play on. This saved the town and the BSA from having to hire someone to come do that.*

Student Essay Contest

Essay Contest –Winter Essay Contest.  There will be **three** contests:

 Grades 3-5 with 100 words - **What is your favorite thing about going to school?**

Grades 6 - 8 with 250 words - **Research something interesting about the history of the Town of Newton - and describe why you feel it is important to you or your neighbors today.**

 Grades 9-12 with 250 words - **Who do you think of when you remember those who have died in military service? Why is it important for us to celebrate Memorial Day?**

Ms. Masterson distributed 10 essay submission to the Commission to review. All were on the Memorial Day topic. At the next meeting, we will vote to choose winners and submit the choices to the Board of Selectmen.

Lifeguards and Town Beach

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that two returning lifeguards will receive $15 an hour and two new lifeguards will receive $14.21 an hour. The Lifeguard Supervisor will receive $1600 for the summer. All wages will come from the Warrant Article. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously. Faulconer – aye; Burrill – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Connors – aye; Mears – aye.**

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Ms. Connors will research the cost for placing a sign at the entrance to the Town Beach parking lot. *Newton Residents only. Police Take Notice. Newton sticker required.*

Lt. Peter Janeliunas has expressed interest in the Lifeguard Supervisor position. Chairman Faulconer and Ms. Masterson will meet with him.

Chairman Faulconer will coordinate plans for a book box at the Town Beach (leave a book, take a book).

Recreation Commission Reorganization

Chairman Faulconer has been sworn in for re-appointment to the Recreation Commission until 2025. Ms. Connors, Mr. Harding, and Ms. Burrill’s appointments need to be confirmed by the end of April 2022. All have indicated that they would like to continue as Members of the Commission. Each will need to go to the Town Clerk’s office to be sworn in for another term.

Eagle Scout Town Beach patio

A Court of Honor Ceremony will be held for Derrick Fresco who built the patio and picnic tables for the Town Beach. Ms. Mears and Ms. Masterson will attend the ceremony and present Derrick with a letter and gift. Ms. Masterson will have the letter for the Recreation Commission to review at the next meeting. Ms. Connors will create a custom card for Derrick.

Olde Home Day

The Recreation Commission will begin to make plans for Olde Home Day scheduled for September 17, 2022. Ms. Masterson will develop a Sponsor/Business letter for the Commission’s review. She will send a list of entertainment and vendors to Ms. Connors and Vice Chair Kuzmitski to reach out to past participants and potential participants. They will also reach out to local organizations, such as dance, karate, self-defense, pet training, yoga, pilates and other businesses to see if they would like to do a presentation. Selectman Burrill will organize the bands.

Newton Campers

Ms. Masterson was in touch with the Kingston Recreation Department to find out the cost of subsidizing Newton campers to attend the Kingston Summer Day Camp. Newton residents pay $200 per week, which is $40 more than Kingston campers. The Kingston Recreation Director could not give a definitive cost but he said that it would be in the range of eight campers for eight weeks. The Town Auditor and the Recreation Commission believe the direction to take is to have a Warrant Article to supplement the fee for the Newton campers. A resident group would have to solicit names for a petition. The Recreation Commission will revisit the subject in August.

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Adjournment

**Vice Chair Kuzmitski made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:40 p.m. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

 Next Meeting

April 18, 2022, at 7pm will be the next meeting of the Recreation Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson, Secretary, Recreation Commission

*Posted on 4/19/2022 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.*