

TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

*Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: September 19, 2022

Call to Order - 7:00 pm.

In attendance – Chairman Rick Faulconer, Selectman Matt Burrill, Vice Chairman Christine Kuzmitski, Peggy Connors, Peter Janeliunas, Lifeguard Supervisor (guest), Jennifer West and Susan Zipkin, Country Pond Lake Association (guests), Town Administrator Mark Andrews, and Patricia Masterson (recording Minutes).

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to approve the Minutes of September 12, 2022. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously****.**

Recreation Commission Budget

Lt. Janeliunas, Supervisor of the Lifeguards, joined in a Recreation Commission discussion about the 2023 Budget. He gave a recap for the season. Equipment is in good condition, and the Town Beach shed has been cleaned. The Recreation Commission has requested ARPA funds for two picnic tables, two lifeguard rescue tubes, two life jackets, and a ring buoy. There were scheduling issues and personnel issues this summer.

Four Lifeguards were initially hired, but one could not be employed due to illness and one could not start until August when she was 16 years old. There has to be two lifeguards on duty at a time so it was difficult to maintain a consistent schedule. Lt. Janeliunas believes only one of the Lifeguards will return next summer.

Hiring Lifeguards in a competitive market will require creative ideas. We may have to start posting for the positions soon with incentives such as $20 per hour (or $18 for the first week, $19 for the second week, and $20 for the rest of the summer if attendance is maintained.); paid certification if the Lifeguard completes the summer; 30 hours a week for 12 weeks with three days on and three days off. We may also offer a stipend if the Lifeguard completes a certain number of hours for the summer. Other ideas included a sign-on bonus, and gift cards for a number of hours. Advertising was discussed. Ads should include how much a Lifeguard can make from the last week of June until Labor Day.

*Recreation Commission, September 19, 2022, Minutes, Page 2*

The Commission decided to continue funding the program with a Warrant Article rather than including it in the Budget, which might be cut. We will decide the amount the Warrant Article request should be increased to cover the differential in payroll and incentives.

Representatives from the Country Pond Lake Association Lake Host Program attended the Meeting to discuss their work and their budget. They completed 219 boat inspections this year. They received $2000 from a Town Warrant Article las year but would like to hire more Lake Hosts and raise their budget to $3000. They asked if it is feasible to add the Lake Host Program to the Recreation Commission Budget. The Recreation Commission is fully supportive of the Lake Host Program and hopes it continues. They are open to adding the Program to their Budget but have concerns about the Budget being cut in the Deliberative Session and the Lake Host Program being dropped. The Representatives will bring both options to their Board – the Warrant Article and the Recreation Commission Budget – to make a decision on how to go forward.

The Recreation Commission voted to raise their budget to $21, 450: $800 for Advertising (up from $200); and $13,000 for Special Programs (up from $11,000).

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to submit a Recreation Commission Budget for $21,450. Vice Chair Kuzmitski seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously. Faulconer – aye; Burrill – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Connors – aye.**

Olde Home Day

Ms. Connors has been arranging for entertainment at Olde Home Day. She has secured a face painter, a balloon twister and Irish step dancers.

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to pay $485 for a Face Painter; $600 for a Balloon Twister; and $125 for Irish Step Dancers for a total of $1,235. Vice Chair Kuzmitski seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.** **Faulconer – aye; Burrill – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Connors – aye.**

Chairman Faulconer will purchase food for the Senior BBQ and the Knights of Columbus grill for Olde Home Day.

**Chairman Faulconer made a Motion to spend $324.96 for food for the Senior BBQ; $157.74 for the Knights of Columbus; and $25 for ice, for a total of $541.67. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously. Faulconer – aye; Burrill – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Connors – aye.**

*Recreation Commission, September 19, 2022, Minutes, Page 3*

An initial count of funds raised at Olde Home Day is $2, 548. The Recreation Commission would like to donate the funds to the Town Food Pantry and End 68 Hours of Hunger. Town Administrator Mark Andrews will check with Tina O’Rourke, Food Pantry Coordinator, and Ms. Masterson will check with End 68 Hours of Hunger to see if they have a need for donations.

Town-Wide Yard Sale

Signs will be needed for the Town-Wide Yard Sale on October 15, from 8am to 2pm.

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to spend $400 on signs for the Town-Wide Yard Sale. Chairman Faulconer seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously. Faulconer – aye; Burrill – aye; Kuzmitski – aye; Connors – aye.**

Adjournment

**Vice Chair Kuzmitski made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:25 p.m. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously.**

Next Meeting

October 3, 2022, in the Large Room at the Town Hall at 7:00pm will be the next meeting of the Recreation Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson, Secretary

*Posted on 10/4/2022 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.*