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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Rye Town Hall

10 Central Road, Rye, NH

6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Cory Belden, Stephen King, Gregg Mikolaities, Brett Mulvey, Joe Persechino, Georgina Saravia Commissioners, and Lee Arthur, Recreation Director.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m.

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes

Consideration of Previous Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2019.

The meeting minutes of May 6, 2019 were considered.

Motion was made by Cory Belden to approve the Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2019. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion carried.

IV. Correspondence

Financial Reports

Recreation Director Lee Arthur explained that she has not received the financial reports for May, once received they will reviewed at the next Recreation Commission Meeting.

Other

Field Use Request from Steve McManus

Included in the meeting packet was an e-mail from Stephen McManus to utilize the baseball fields at the Recreation Area for a baseball school June 17-20, 2019, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. He indicated it was to help Rye Little League players and was requesting permission to use the baseball field for those days. However, it was not a Rye Little League event. He also noted that he could get insurance for the baseball school.

It was discussed that Rye Little League has the fields booked from April 1-July 31, 2019, 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. The commissioners suggested that the best course of action would

be to run the school as a Rye Little League event. Stephen King will contact Rye Little Leagues President to see if the fields are available and if it can operate as a Rye Little event.

Motion was made by Gregg Mikolaities to authorize Stephen King to contact the President of Rye Little League to see if the fields are available June 17-20, 2019, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and if the baseball school offered by Stephen McManus can operate as a Rye Little event. If he cannot operate under Rye Little League but the fields are available he must submit a field use permit and a certificate of insurance. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion carried.

Field Use Request from Dave Williams

Included in the meeting packet was an e-mail from David Williams to utilize the soccer fields at the Recreation Area for individual soccer training for youth in Rye, the week of June 3 and June 10, 2019, 5:00 p.m. and future times and dates throughout the summer. It was indicated that Rye Soccer Association has the fields booked April 1-June 5, 2019 and August 1-November 1, 3:00-8:00 p.m. The commissioners suggested that the best course of action was to run the instruction as a Rye Soccer Association event. Stephen King will contact Rye Soccer Associations President to see if the fields are available and if it can operate as a Rye Soccer Associations event.

It was discussed that if there was no charge for the instruction and no reservation of space the insurance may not be necessary.

Motion was made by Gregg Mikolaities to authorize Stephen King to contact the President of the Rye Soccer Association to see if the fields are available for use during the dates requested and if the instruction offered by David Williams can operate as a Rye Soccer Association event. If he cannot operate under the Rye Soccer Association, the fields are available and there is a charge for the instruction. He must submit a field use permit and a certificate of insurance. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion carried.

Correspondence from Todd Cronin regarding the Recreation Area Construction Site

Todd Cronin has expressed concern with safety at the construction site of the new Rye Recreation Multi-purpose Storage Facility. Over Memorial Day weekend during baseball festivities some minor injuries occurred from kids playing on the site. The commission discussed the issue and determined Lee Arthur will speak with the contractor about taking steps to secure the site.

There was a discussion regarding the Recreation Area and what it encompassed, as well as the commission's jurisdiction. Documentation would be brought to the next meeting and it would be discussed further.

Correspondence from Paula Tssetilas regarding the potential Middle School Program

Paula Tssetilas has requested an update on the potential Rye Recreation afterschool middle school program. Lee Arthur explained she has no further updates to give until she hears from the church about the status of the lease.

V. Old Business

Eagle Scout Project – Skyler Mikolaities Update

Skyler Mikolaities sent an e-mail to see if the commission would like the kiosk discussed at the last meeting to be ordered from a catalog or built by hand. Lee Arthur told him that it should be built by hand.

Rye Congregational Church Ice Rink Update

Included in the meeting packet was information on the ice rink initiative by Rye Congregational Church. Rev. Ron Lavoie of the Rye Congregational Church has withdrawn his request to the Town of Rye for help flooding the ice rink, permission to put up a sign on Washington Road announcing whether the ice rink was “open” or “closed” during the ice skating season and for the Town of Rye to assist the church in surveying and leveling the lower parking lot (now a grassy area).

There was a discussion about the possible involvement of Rye Recreation in the ice skating rink, such as renting the rink from the Rye Congregational Church and providing programs. The commissioners expressed support for the project.

Recreation Multi-Purpose Storage Facility Update

Lee Arthur discussed the doors of the storage facility. Gregg Mikolaities noted that at some point they need to ensure the front elevation looks suitable with windows in the front and back of the building. He also suggested having weekly meetings with the builder.

There was a discussion regarding the electrical service provided by Eversource for the storage facility. Cory Belden explained that the transformer that services the Rye Recreation Area is located at the entrance to the area and Eversource is requiring significant upgrades with the new building, sighting that everything needs to be brought up to code. The transformer is too far away and needs to be brought closer to the facility (relocating the transformer, running new lines and inserting new poles). This would cost close to \$11,000. Further discussion followed, and Gregg Mikolaities wondered whether they could ask Eversource to pay for the electrical over time instead of all at once. Lee Arthur will talk to Michael Magnant to see if he can work with Eversource to reduce the cost, and if not the commission will come up with a payment plan. The commission also discussed the possibility of using solar panels.

Recreation Congregational Church Space Update

Lee Arthur explained the draft lease is in the church's system and is moving through their approval process. She will pursue attending the church council meeting on June 20, 2019 as that may assist in speeding up the process. The commissioners discussed the issue and came to the understanding that until they have assurances from the church about the lease, Rye Recreation cannot move forward with planning for the youth/senior programs at the site.

RecTrac and WebTrac Update

Rye Recreation has been doing tests on accepting credit cards at the office and will conduct tests on accepting credit cards online. In the future people will be able to pay by credit card online and at the Rye Recreation Office.

2019-2020 Rye After School Program Sign-up Update

The program is limited in the number of students they can accept because of space limitations. Right now, there are 62 participants registered for the 2019-2020 After-School Program (47 families), each day is full. The sign-up was very successful with 50% of participants registering online. It was suggested inquiring about space at the junior high school to accommodate fifth and sixth graders. Concerns were expressed about the lack of space to match the demands of the town residents. The commission would like Lee Arthur to talk to Paula Tsetsilas to find out if Rye Recreation can use some space at the junior high school for an afterschool program for fifth and sixth graders for the 2019-2020 school year or 2020-2021. It was noted without a bathroom on the lower level at Rye Elementary the classrooms cannot be used for other programming during the school day.

Lee Arthur discussed the issue of lack of staff, so the commission discussed the possibility of trying to find qualified interns through UNH or other nearby colleges.

2019-2020 Rye After School Program MOU Update

Regarding the MOU, the commission discussed the agreement provided by Salvatore Petralia of the SAU. It was discussed that the terms of the agreement would only be for one year and that in the agreement; the Rye School Board included a new \$1,000 custodial cleaning fee. The commission questioned the justification for the fee and if the \$1,000 actually goes to the custodian. Lee Arthur was directed to reach out to Salvatore Petralia to find out what the justification was the \$1,000 custodial fee.

**VI. New Business
Program Updates**

The first week of the summer camp program is almost full with 40 children. The second week has less but will likely reach 30 children. Overall summer camp registration is up over this time last year.

Other

Lee Arthur explained that the commission will be getting a request for CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) in July, so she suggested between now and the next meeting thinking about what they would like to include in the CIP.

Gregg Mikolaities mentioned that they should consider hiring a new staff member to help with the large amount of work in the recreation department, which is currently understaffed, especially considering the upcoming new programs that will be starting this year and next year.

Lee Arthur indicated that John Gray called her to say that the Rye Soccer Association is contemplating having sponsor signs at the lower soccer field.

The commission briefly discussed the Rye Listening Circles which occurred on May 31, 2019. The commissioners expressed an appreciation for the Rye Listening Circles.

VII. Adjournment

*Motion was made by Gregg Mikolaities to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.
Seconded by Georgina Saravia. Motion carried.*

The next Recreation Commission Meeting is Monday, July 1, 2019 at the Recreation Area.

**These are draft minutes. Please refer to the minutes of the next meeting for approvals/corrections.*