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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 8, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
Rye Town Hall Court Room, 10 Central Road, Rye, NH

In attendance: Cory Belden, Maggie Duffy-Durkin, Judy Scott, Commissioners, and Lee Arthur, Recreation Director.
Guests: Shawn Crapo, SeaSide Landscaping and Michael MacDonald, Seacoast Lacrosse Association.

A. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

B. Roll Call

C. Approval of Minutes

- **Consideration of Previous Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2017**

It was discussed that there was not a quorum; therefore, the approval of the Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2017 were tabled until the next meeting.

D. Correspondence

- **Financial Reports**

The financial reports for February, 2017 were reviewed. At the end of February the Recreation General Fund Budget current year expenditures were \$36,567.38; the Recreation Revolving Fund Budget \$31,633.33; and the Patriotic Purposes Budget had no expenditures. The 2017 Budget is not reflected in the financials for February because it has to be voted on by the public. The Recreation Revolving Fund Revenue for 2016 was \$200,332.00. The accounts are registration fees, miscellaneous revenue, afterschool revenue and summertime horyezons revenue. Maggie Duffy-Durkin asked what the miscellaneous revenue was. Lee Arthur explained that it is New Hampshire Humanities Council Grants for Active, Alive and Over 55 Club Programs.

- **Letter from Joseph Persechino requesting to serve on the Recreation Commission.**

The Recreation Commissioners reviewed a letter from Joseph Persechino requesting to serve on the Recreation Commission. It was noted that Stacey Brooks and Janet Stevens need to indicate in writing to the Board of Selectmen that they are not requesting to renew their terms. Lee Arthur noted that she would reach out to Joseph Persechino and request that he address his letter to the Board of Selectmen. It was discussed that the Recreation Commission recommends candidates to the Board of Selectmen.

- **2017 Youth Skills Camps Operating in New Hampshire (Rye Recreation Certification)**

Included in the meeting packet was Rye Recreation's verification of NHDES Youth Skill Camps Certification. It was noted that Seacoast Lacrosse, Rye Little League, and Rye Soccer Association also need to acquire certification for 2017.

E. Old Business

- **Recreation Warrant Article**

Included in the meeting packet was an informational sheet on the Recreation Warrant Article 18.

- **Recreation Area Improvements (Drainage, Guardrail, and Fencing)**

The drainage of the Ralph Morang baseball field was discussed. Corey Belden indicated that he had started to develop a plan for the installation of an under drain along the first base line. The connection point has to be determined as well as the timing of the project. Shawn Crapo suggested, although it is a more expensive solution, to move the field away from the access road to provide more space. It was indicated that there may also be ledge at the area, which is assisting in the water retention.

The installation of a guard rail and fencing around the pond was discussed. It was noted that the project cannot take place until after the 2017 Town of Rye Budget is approved by the voters in March. The Town of Rye's insurance provider recommended a 4' barrier fence replace the existing 3' fence with a wood timber guardrail in front. Lee Arthur requested input on where the openings in fence would be as well as whether the fence is galvanized or black. She also reminded the Recreation Commission that they had also previously discussed placing a fence on the opposite side of the road from the pond. It was determined that a site walk was necessary.

There was a discussion about attaching brackets/poles to a portion of the guard rail instead of having the fence stand alone and the poor condition of the road.

F. New Business

- **SeaSide Landscaping**

Lee Arthur explained that last year the Recreation Commission decided to invite all groups that utilize the recreation field (Seacoast Lacrosse, Rye Little League, and Rye Travel Soccer) to a meeting at the beginning of the season to discuss usage. SeaSide Landscaping is the current turf maintenance contractor and was invited to discuss field readiness.

The turf and maintenance contractor is responsible for inspecting the fields for readiness and determines the date at the beginning of season that the fields are open for use. Shawn Crapo indicated that at a minimum you need to wait until the frost is out of the ground and that the grass is not dormant. It was discussed that last year there was less snow and they were on the fields around April 1st. Shawn Crapo indicated that he would start inspecting the fields late next week. The Recreation Commission will not allow field use

until they receive notification from Shawn Crapo that the fields are ready.

- **Recreation Field(s) Use Applications and Representatives**

Michael MacDonald was present representing Seacoast Lacrosse. They submitted a completed Recreation Fields Use Application Form, fee, and certificate of insurance. A copy of their application to the NHDES Youth Skill Camp was included. However, it was noted that they have not received their certification yet. It was discussed that the application could not be voted on because there is not a quorum, although Seacoast Lacrosse does not need to come to any additional meetings.

Michael MacDonald distributed a summary sheet indicating the number of lacrosse players, which towns they are from and which fields they utilize across the seacoast. There are 127 players from Rye and New Castle, which makes up 31% of their total participation. Greenland has 80 players, 19%; Newington 7 players, 2% and Portsmouth 198 players for 48%. The total number of players is 412 divided out into 25 teams. Seacoast Lacrosse utilizes fields in Portsmouth, Rye, Greenland and Newington. They play a majority of their games at Portsmouth High. They have grown by almost 100 players in the past two years. Lee Arthur asked which days and time they were requesting the Rye Recreation Fields. Michael MacDonald indicated Monday thru Friday, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., ending the second weekend in June. He indicated that there is a new field going in off of Route 33 and two more fields at community campus. Michael MacDonald pointed out that Parsons Field has a lot of dog waste on it.

Ray Hindle replied that he was not able to attend the meeting; however, would fill out the forms and leave them at the Recreation Office. Brian Murphy was also invited from Little League and Leif Honda from Rye Travel Soccer.

The Recreation Fields Use Application was reviewed.

- **Program Updates**

Lee Arthur pointed out that in the meeting packet is the March Newsletter for the After School Program, Summer Programs information and Art in Bloom information. She noted that the Spring and Summer Sign-up Commencement is Monday, March 6, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. and that Vicki Loring has really stepped up and took on Art in Bloom. There is an Active, Alive and Over 55 Luncheon tomorrow and the program is Rally Round the Flag (the civil war expressed through folk music). Town Vote will take place Tuesday, March 14, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

G. Adjournment

Motion was made by Judy Scott to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. Seconded by Cory Belden. Motion carried.