**Recreation Committee Meeting**

**March 21, 2017; 6:30PM**

**Hardwick Elementary School**

Present: Joe Brosseau; Ron W iesen, Nicole Miller, Derek Williams, Kathy Hemmens

Absent: Katharine Ingram, Jessica Manchester

Joe Brosseau called the meeting to order at 6:45PM after the Committee relocated from the Public Safety Building to the Hardwick Elementary School.

**Approval of Minutes.** Following a motion by Ron Wiesen, seconded by Nicole Miller, the Minutes of the February meeting were unanimously approved.

**Monthly Financial Report.** Kathy Hemmens reported that there were no new expenditures of note during the month of February and that expenditures so far are in line with the budget. However, the resignation of Jessica Manchester as Recreation Committee Coordinator leaves approximately $7,000 that could be used for another purpose and/or to cover the salary of a new Coordinator. Following a motion by Nicole and a second by Ron, the Financial Report was unanimously approved.

**Vote in new Committee Officers.** Ron Wiesen proposed a slate of officers as follows: Joe Brosseau, President, Derek Williams, Vice-President, Kathy Hemmens, Secretary-Treasurer. Nicole seconded the motion to approve this slate, and it was adopted unanimously.

**Project Updates.**

Skating Rink: Joe and Nicole reported that they felt the first season of the rink had been successful . Joe believes that providing a warming shed will increase participation and plans to put that option on the Rec. Committee agenda for next year. He will contact the Skating Rink volunteers and arrange with them to take the rink down and store it sometime in April, once the weather warms up. Joe will also seek storage space for the lights and other equipment.

Swim Program: Nicole reported that the Greensboro Lake Association has found two swim instructors who will provide instruction to both Hardwick and Greensboro children during the month of July, 2017. However, neither the 2016 nor the 2017 Rec. Committee budget has funds allocated to pay for this. The total cost of providing the lessons to Hardwick children will be $ 3200, and it is possible that NEK Kids on the Move will contribute toward that expense. The Committee agreed we should offer this program, if at all possible, as it has been a Committee goal for several years. Kathy Hemmens will approach Brittany Currie in the Town Manager’s Office to request use of some of the remaining Coordinator’s salary line to cover the swim program cost. Nicole will contact Katharine Ingram to see if NEK Kids will help cover the cost as well.

Green Up Day: Ron Wiesen reported that Green Up Day planning is in good shape, and that the event can be managed without Jessica’s help. The Rec. Committee is partnering with the Jeudevine on the essay/poster contest. Karen Klotz is doing fine as Coordinator and has other volunteers to help her.

Spring Festival Race: With the resignation of Jessica as Coordinator, the Rec. Committee does not have the capacity to organize the Race, and Joe recommended that we inform the Kiwanis Festival Committee that it will not be held this year. The Committee was in agreement with this recommendation.

**New Business.** Jessica Manchester’s resignation was raised next. She was unable to attend the Committee meeting to formally submit her resignation and help the Committee determine how to handle her responsibilities going forward. Joe will meet with her to acquire the key to the Senior Center and be briefed on the website arrangements and any other necessary matters. After discussion, the Committee decided to seek a new Coordinator whose start date will be July 1, 2017. The Committee will review the Coordinator Job Description and change it, if necessary, to fit current circumstances.

On the matter of activities for Seniors, Kathy Hemmens reported that Norma Spaulding, Ruth Gaillard, and she had met with the Director of the St. Johnsbury Senior Center and with Jim Flint, the Director of Wonder and Wisdom, to learn more about what is going on in other communities and locally for Seniors. Ruth and Norma are informally polling “younger Seniors” to get ideas on what activities would be attractive to them. The lack of a Hardwick location that is easily available for Senior use and can accommodate a variety of activities is a serious obstacle to the development of senior programming. The Board members of the Senior Center are only interested in a weekly lunch and do not wish to sponsor other activities. The Senior Center space is also very limited in its capacity and availability.

Kathy, Ruth, and Norma will continue to work on these issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hemmens

**The next meeting of the Committee has been moved to the third Tuesday of the month and will be held at 6:30PM on April 18th in the Public Safety Building.**