**Hardwick Recreation Committee Minutes**

**June 13, 2017 6:30PM Hardwick Senior Center**

Present: Joe Brosseau, Ron Wiesen, Nicole Miller, Derek Williams, Kathy Hemmens

Joe called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** Following a motion by Ron Wiesen and a second by Nicole Miller, the Minutes were approved unanimously.  **Finance Report:** Kathy reviewed the report of the May finances, indicating that the Committee has $7,850 remaining with less than a month left in the fiscal year. Expenditures in May were: $648 for Green-Up Day and $49.50 to reimbursement Jessica Manchester for the monthly payment for the web calendar program. Joe indicated that the contract with the calendar company has been discontinued. Following a motion by Ron Wiesen and a second by Derek Williams, the Finance Report was approved unanimously.

**Project Updates**

**Summer Swim Program:** Nicole reported that everything is in place for the summer swim program except for lifeguards. Although the position of lifeguard for the program has been advertised in several places and Nicole has been contacting her network for leads, no lifeguard has been found and this jeopardizes REACH’s ability to conduct the swimming program as planned. The Committee offered to pay the cost of a lifeguard certification program ($300) if an applicant could be found prior to the end of the fiscal year. Nicole will continue to search and will let the Committee know by email of her results.

Following a motion by Derek Williams and a second by Ron Wiesen, four members of the Committee voted in favor of paying the cost of a lifeguard certification course, provided it could be charged in this fiscal year. Nicole abstained from the vote.

**Springfest:** Ron reported on the results of sharing an information table with the Trails Committee during Springfest. He said the traffic through the tent where the non-profit and other community organizations were located was low and that no one responded to our materials asking for volunteers and Committee members. Ron recommended that the Committee not make the effort next year.

**Walking Tour:** Joe has spoken with The Center for Agricultural Economy, Hazen Union, and the Hardwick Historical Society about the Hardwick Walking Tour idea he has developed. He does not feel he is making much headway gaining buy-in by these other organizations, although they express support for the project. He wants this to be a project that involves a broad cross-section of the Hardwick community, but that is not coming together at this point. He finds the school not very open to school/community collaboration but is determined to keep trying.

**Mackville Pond—Rec. Committee’s Role:** Ron reported that the only equipment at the park that the Rec. Committee was responsible for is the standing wooden play structure. He said the Town was responsible for maintenance of the property, and he did not remember that the Committee had ever put in picnic benches. He felt we should repair the wooden structure if necessary. Kathy commented on what a lovely park area Mackville Pond is and suggested the Committee see about acquiring funds through a grant to install more equipment for small children in that location.

**Other Business:**

**New Coordinator position:** The Committee will advertise in the Gazette for two more weeks; Joe will email the two applicants we have and let them know we will be interviewing on July 11 at our next monthly meeting and will be in touch to schedule the time of the interview. Nicole will send around the list of questions the Committee used when interviewing the previous Coordinator as well as questions used in recent interviews for REACH. In discussing the duties of the Coordinator, it was agreed that “moving forward our on-going and new projects” should be the main focus.

**Pickleball:** Kathy reported that she had received emails from several people interested in pickleball and had talked with a woman in W. Glover who plays in several towns up north with an active group of about 25 adults, mostly older adults. In Newport, Derby, and Derby Line, the Town has facilitated the playing of this sport by permitting the marking of pickleball court lines on Town tennis courts and gyms. The players themselves have purchased nets and other equipment necessary for play. Kathy will respond to those in Hardwick who have expressed interest to see if they are willing to form a sub-committee to explore ways to make this sport possible in Hardwick.

**Portable warming shed:** Joe reported that he has found several suitable RVs in the under $2000 price range.He could purchase one on behalf of the Committee to serve as a warming shed **,** if a place could be found to store it and work on it. Volunteers will be needed for the retrofitting project. Following a motion by Ron Wiesen and a second by Kathy Hemmens, the Committee voted unanimously to purchase an RV for up to $1800, provided we have a place to store it and it can be purchased prior to the end of the fiscal year.

**Other Business:** Several assignments were made to accomplish urgent tasks. Kathy will contact Jon Jewett to discuss what we need to do, if anything, at Mackville Pond park; she will also talk to Jon about the possibility of the Town storing the RV so it can be renovated and kept in a protected spot in the off-season . Ron will talk to Jon about moving and storing the skating rink cover until next winter. Joe will contact the Coordinator applicants. Derek is available to help move the skating rink cover. Nicole will compile possible questions for the Coordinator applicant interviews.

The meeting was adjourned at8:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hemmens, Secretary-Treasurer

**The next meeting of the Committee will be held on July 11th at 6:30PM at the Senior Center in the Public Safety Building. This is an open meeting and the public is welcome.**