

## Recreation Committee Meeting

### Minutes

November 10, 2016, 6:30PM

### Senior Center Building

Present: Katharine Ingram, Chair, Joe Brosseau, Derek Williams, Kathy Hemmens, Jessica Manchester

Absent: Ron Wiesen, Nicole Miller

Katharine called the meeting to order at 6:38PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** Following a motion by Kathy Hemmens, seconded by Derek Williams, the Minutes of the October meeting were unanimously approved.

**Monthly Financial Report:** Kathy Hemmens reported that the Committee has \$18,664.59 remaining in its annual budget and has spent so far only 15% of what is available. However, the purchase of the Porta-Rinx was over budget by \$695.00 and the conference expenditures of \$297.91 were an unbudgeted item. Either other line items will have to be reduced to make up for these deficits or funds will need to be raised from the community to offset the over-expenditures. The Coordinator's Salary Fund left over from the previous fiscal year has \$1806.70 remaining, enough for several more months.

After some discussion of fund raising, the Financial Report was approved, following a motion by Katharine and a second by Kathy.

**Project Updates:** Jessica reported that she is waiting for the right weather to have the **Porta-Rinx** delivered and set up. When she is about a week away from set-up, she will seek volunteers from Front Porch Forum, although few are needed, as set-up is quite simple. Joe Brosseau and Derek Williams offered to help, if they are available on the day of set-up. Tom Fadden has said the Road Crew can plow the parking area near the skating rink, and Jessica has identified several potential donor organizations for contributions to defray the cost of the rink. She will submit applications this month to supplement what is in the budget for this purpose.

Jessica reported next on her **website** research. She described the advantages of the Timely Calendars application and recommended subscribing to this service for a discounted price of \$49 per month—an amount covered by the current Rec. Committee budget. After considerable discussion about the attributes of this program, Joe made a motion to purchase the recommended service; the motion was seconded by Derek and passed unanimously. Jessica will make the purchase and begin setting it up as soon as possible. She will also contact other organizations in town that has indicated an interest in providing information on activities and events to this calendar. The new Rec. Committee calendar will be situated under the listing "Community Activities" on the Hardwick Town Web-site.

Kathy reported on her discussions with the **Senior Center Board and members**. The group indicated that they did not want to initiate new activities for Seniors, although they welcomed new people to the weekly lunch held at the Center. Many expressed interest in having more sponsored trips, like those provided by Wonder and Wisdom and supported by the Rec. Committee. Bus transportation has become a problem since the Greensboro Nursing Home is

no longer allowing use of its large bus for trips. Several members would like an organized walking program like the Greensboro Walking Ladies. The high school is available in the afternoon for walking during the winter and they would like some easy to handle paths or routes for warm weather as well as help seeking older adults who would like to join a walking group. The Senior Center Board is open to having activities for seniors organized by others take place at the Center. Kathy added that Ruth Gaillard has approached her asking about just that possibility. Kathy will put Ruth in touch with Jessica who will offer assistance.

## **Old Business**

**Discussion and Approval of 2017-2018 Budget:** Jessica proposed several minor changes to the budget that had been recommended to the full Committee following the special budget meeting in October. The total budget amount is \$21,933 and meets the Committee's goal to propose a budget with no increase to the Select Board. The changes proposed were: increase calendar/website line to \$600; decrease training line to \$170; decrease Frisbee golf line to \$618. Katharine made a motion to approve the budget as revised; Derek Williams seconded. Following clarification by Jessica of several items, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the budget as revised. Presentation to the Select Board is scheduled for December 1, 2016. Ron Wiesen, Joe Brosseau, and Jessica will attend that meeting to present the budget, as Katharine will be out of town at that time.

**Capital Account/Fund Balance Discussion:** The Committee discussed the pros and cons of requesting both a capital account for the Rec. Committee as well as seeking approval to ask Hardwick voters at Town Meeting to permit the Committee to retain any surplus left at the end of the fiscal year. After discussion, Katharine moved that the Committee request establishment of a Rec. Committee capital account; Kathy seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. No action was taken on the proposal to request retention of the fund balance.

**Rec./Trails Committee relationship:** Katharine reported on the decision of the Trails Committee to establish a separate policy and identity from the Recreation Committee. Katharine will speak with Norma and Eric to discuss ways to promote mutual information sharing and planning.

**Green-Up Day Coordinator:** Jessica reported that Karen Kloch has volunteered to take over Green-Up Day coordination. Ron and Jessica will assist her.

Katharine requested discussions be scheduled for the December meeting on the organization of the Spring-Fest Fun Run and how to handle the "mini-grants" currently awarded to community organizations by the Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Hemmens

**The next meeting will be held on December 14, 2016 at the Senior Center in the Public Safety Building.**