

Hardwick Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Joe Brosseau, Ron Wiesen, Derek Williams, Nicole Miller. Absent: Kathy Hemmens

Recreation Coordinator: Susanne Gann

Guests: Jennifer Patrick, Holly Bolio, Rhonda Hess

Minutes of September 12 meeting:

Ron moved to approve, seconded by Nicole: approved unanimously. The financial report was not given, due to Kathy's absence. Kathy will not be attending meetings, indefinitely, due to a family illness, so this will need to be addressed, as well as who will take minutes this week. Susanne will take minutes and will get the financial report from Brittany before the next meeting and provide it then.

Youth Program Information:

- Nicole reported on how the Youth Program funds were spent this past summer. The Recreation Committee pays for a portion of the morning sports camps at Reach and the swim program. Due to the loss of swim instructors at the last minute, the Reach staff coordinated other programming to replace it. They took trips to Lake Eden Rec Area, Tae Kwan Do classes and mini golf at the mountain view snack bar.
- Holly and Rhonda asked several questions regarding the programming provided. Is snack necessary, or could it be provided by parents? Children are accustomed to receiving the fresh fruits and vegetables during the school year, so Nicole and her team try to provide it to be consistent. Could mini golf have been free? Tops grocery store had coupons for free mini golf on the back of receipts all summer. Those could have been used. Nicole hadn't realized this, but thought it was a good idea for next year.
- Nicole provided the committee with an invoice for \$6,140.05. \$1,587.84 was intended to come from the prior fiscal year, so the net is \$4,552.21. Nicole was approved to submit the invoice to Brittany for payment, but to clarify the \$1,587.84 from the prior year.
- Nicole is working with NEK Swim to organize the swim lesson programming for next summer. This is a group that provides a Life Guard and Water Safety instructor. Reach would provide the support for caring for kids while they wait for their lesson on the beach/grass.
- Holly inquired if it would be possible to offer swim lessons to younger ages? Possibly a Mommy and Me. Nicole will find out from NEK swim.
- Would other neighboring communities like to collaborate on swim lessons for next year (Greensboro, Craftsbury, Woodbury, Wolcott). Nicole will survey her connections to find out.
- Action Item: Nicole will bring the estimate for next year's program to the November meeting, so that the committee can include it in their budget request to the Selectboard.

Recreation Coordinator Monthly Progress Report:

- Pickleball: Continues on Sundays at Hazen from 9:00 – 11:00, Hazen has equipment, but the nets are set into the floor, and are difficult to set at the right height. They are

also not able to be moved to a different location. I have researched equipment and we could purchase four complete sets including nets, balls and paddles for \$750.

- Action Item: I am going to see if the elementary school could purchase them at a discounted rate, as sometimes the number in the catalog is very different if you are a school. This would allow us to take the equipment to HES if the time works better there this winter. The equipment could then be used outside when we have a good location. There is \$600 in the budget that has already been identified for use for Pickleball, and potential savings from the Rec Coord. Salary could be used for the remainder, if needed.
- Action Item: Develop and post a flyer to advertise (hang at Tops, banks and post office). It is posted on Facebook and on Front Porch Forum currently. Holly and Rhonda suggested also posting at the Village Restaurant.
- Mackville Pond:
 - No change.
 - Action Item: I need to check to see if the site is in a flood plain to see if it will qualify for any grant funding.
- Senior Programming – Ceilidh Galloway-Kane and I will be meeting on 10/24 to discuss applying for potential grant funding to finance RCT or Lamoille Valley Transportation to continue trips for seniors next year. She has sent me a survey to give to as many seniors in the area as possible, to get some input on programming ideas for them.;
- Preschool Play Group – United Church of Hardwick dining room can be used as a location. Contacted Jackie Stanton at Lamoille Family Center to see what support they could provide, if any. I have not heard back from her yet.
- Relationship Development/Partnerships
 - Met with Bethany Dunbar at the Center for an Agricultural Economy – She reviewed with me the future plans for Atkins field and the Granite Sheds. We discussed the pump track and the use of the field for the skating rink and programming and events.
 - Action Item: Seeking volunteers to set the rink in November. Possibly the 11th or 12th. It would be good to have someone that has done it before.
 - Joe indicated the rink was set in December last year, and probably could be again this year.
 - Action Item: Joe will forward Susanne a list of people who helped set it up last year. It was suggested that Susanne should reach out to Jen Olson at the high school to secure some youth volunteers for it. They will get community service. Will need a date first for set up.
 - Contacted Connie Bellavance at the Kiwanis to inquire about Key Club. They are not currently meeting, and are waiting to gauge student interest before scheduling a meeting. My daughter and several of her freshman friends have expressed interest and will be reaching out to Patty Foster to start scheduling meetings.
 - Contacted Lisa Sammet at the Jeudevine Memorial Library to notify her that the Rec Committee will not be funding the Halloween programming at the Library this year in favor of other holiday programming. She was fine with that and said thanks for the notification.
 - Holly and Rhonda thought that a holiday workshop would be a good program to run in December instead of the Halloween candy at the library. The committee approved Susanne to move forward with coordinating a holiday workshop in

- December. Susanne will see if Key Club or other students from Hazen want to help. Holly, Rhonda and Jennifer agreed to help with this.
- Action Item: Need to schedule a meeting with principal at high school, Athletic Director, possible meetings with Varsity Club to generate ideas and volunteers.
 - Registered for the VRPA Conference – Attending tomorrow (10/11/17) and Thursday (10/12/17) at Lake Morey Resort.
 - Susanne indicated that one of the things she wants to find out at the conference is if there are grants that could be used to lease a facility instead of purchase one.
 - Susanne wanted to know any other questions the committee would like her to find out at the conference. Everyone was really interested in securing grant funding. What's out there and how do we get it?

Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019 Budget Preparation:

- Change line descriptions: Halloween to Holiday Programs, Senior Trotters to Senior Programs, Frisbee Golf to Sports Programming.
- Eliminate Calendar/Website (move budget to Sports Programming).
- Change Green-up Day to \$1,000.
- Change Training to \$200.
- Change Sports Programming to \$1,200 for possible soccer camp/tournament, plus support for pickle ball equipment.
- Include a line for \$5,000 for Matching Grant Funding (only to be used if we secure a grant that requires matching funds). Possible use at Mackville Pond, providing transportation for senior programs and/or youth programs. This is important when applying for grants, to show the agency that we are also committed to helping finance a project.
- Nicole will bring the cost for the Youth Programming budget to the next meeting, including the NEK Swim budget.

Other Business:

- Holly, Rhonda and Jennifer were asked if they wanted to become members of the Recreation Committee. They indicated that they would like to. The Selectboard will need to officially appoint them to be voting members, but until then, they can be members-at-large. Susanne took their email addresses and will include them on future communications.

Next meeting:

6:30 p.m. November 14, 2017 at the Senior Center. Final iteration of the budget to be submitted to the selectboard for review and inclusion into the Town budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Susanne Gann