

10/3/23

**Town of Winchendon  
Winchendon Parks and Recreation Commission  
September 19, 2023 Minutes-6:30pm  
4th Floor Conference Room, Town Hall**

**Committee Members Present:** Dawn Higgins, Tiffany Newton (Recreation Coordinator), Debra Bradley (chair), Andrew Beauvais (Vice-Chair), Gabe Beauvais, Melanie Franklin

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK  
RCUD OCT 4 2023 AM 8:52

**Absent Members:** Emily Croteau, Emily Bradley, Debra Kane, Dylan Romanowski  
**Non- Members:**

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

**New Member Interest:**

Welcome our new members and thank you for volunteering with us

**Recreation Coordinator Updates**

*Event Recaps*

- Flock of A\*\*holes
  - Well attended for our events
  - Some hiccups with the opening band and start time
  - Loss of \$883.07
- Winchendon Wheels
  - Poorly attended but well received
  - Loss of \$63.27
- Movie Night
  - Cold so low attendance
  - Loss of \$300
- Family Olympics
  - Only 2 families attended with lots of interest but, many conflicts
  - Suggestion of moving the time of year as September is not a great time for many families
  - Suggestion by attendees about using ambassadors to get the word out more about all of the events
  - Loss of \$106.56

**Old Business**

*Member Initiative Updates*

- **Dylan-** Not present
- **Dawn-Ren Faire**
  - We are calling it an immersive theatrical experience with and interactive storyline
  - Props are on point
  - We have secured the Knights of Lord Talbot and Phoenix Swords
  - We will be taking a tour of the park soon
- **Debra K-** Not present

- **Melanie**-Not sure at this time
- **Gabe**-Biking/Trash/Picnic Tables
  - Looking to add bike rentals to the bike path with picnic tables off the beaten path and also 1 or 2 trash receptacles that encompass an advertising aspect to them.
- **Other-Emily B**
  - Emily is looking to change her initiative as she isn't having much luck with the carnival and wants to hold a masquerade ball in October of 2024

## **New Business:**

### *Upcoming events-volunteers*

- Everyone indicated their availability for upcoming events through October.
- Signup genius will continue to be used as it is liked by the commission
- Suggestion on how to get/keep volunteers- WCP bucks in the amount of \$20 given to each volunteer
- CORI checks are now required for all volunteers per the BOS

### *Rescheduled-Reminiscent*

- The Reminiscent were scheduled to be here on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> but were rained out. They are rescheduled for this Friday Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>

### *Fall Fest Prep*

- Table Talk pies are reserved-Tiffany will pick them up on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup>
- This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the pie baking contest-Ribbons will be ordered this week
- We will arrange with Andy Brooks for the Hay for the photo shoot again this year.
- DebB and Dawn have excess pet costumes to donate to the exchange booth- Deb B has a clothes rack we can use to display them.

### *Holiday Decorations*

- No updates as of yet
- Commission asked about doing light pole decoration sponsors as people have indicated their willingness to sponsor this.
- Commission should pick 4 designs and the sponsors can choose from them
- Is there an opportunity to pick a different town tree not at GAR park? Could we pick the one at Grout park?

## **Minutes**

- Deb B made a motion to table the minutes from Sept 5<sup>th</sup> to the next meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup> Dawn 2<sup>nd</sup>

Debra B (Y) Dawn (Y) Debra K (Y) Emily B ( ) Andrew (Y) Emily C ( ) Dylan ( )  
Gabe (Y) Melanie (Y)

## **Financials**

### *Outdoor Heater Expense*

- No update at this time. Waiting on Brian to get us pricing

## **Other Business**

### *Committee Comments or Feedback*

- Gabe- can we add fire pits to WCP. Possibly moveable. Let's figure out a cost
- Andrew-Some feedback is that people don't realize the events are ticketed or what the cost is when they come to events. Could we add a sandwich board up but the parking lot that states what the performance is and what the cost is? Check out [smartsign.com](https://smartsign.com)- maybe we could get 3 boards total
  - Suggested to get a large, possibly electronic, sign at Grout Park.
  - Flyers at local businesses. Maybe members could opt to put them up at certain businesses and take them down on a monthly basis.

**Adjourned:** 8:13 p.m.

Dawn made a motion to adjourn and Melanie 2<sup>nd</sup>

Debra B (Y) Dawn (Y) Debra K (Y) Emily B ( ) Andrew (Y) Emily C ( ) Dylan ( )

Gabe (Y) Melanie (Y)

**Approved:**

  
  
  
