

Town of Winchendon
Winchendon Parks and Recreation Commission
December 17, 2024 Minutes 6:30PM
2nd floor Auditorium, Town Hall

6:30 pm Call to Order

Members in Attendance: Debra Bradley (Chair), Deb Kane, Jennifer Phelps, Dylan Romanowski, Emily Croteau, Emily Bradley, Amy Boshco, Melanie Franklin (Secretary)

Non-Members in Attendance: Shaina Cunningham (coordinator), Brian Croteau (Town Representative)

Jennifer Made a motion to move the public comments to the start of the meeting and table the current agenda for our next meeting.

Dylan seconded

All approved

Motion passes

Andy Fife: Fitchburg, MA

- Vendor
- Andy encouraged the town to not do business with the current contracted company due to past allegations and will advise others to not participate as well.

Brian, the town representative stated the following

- Due to needing to contract this event out and the first bid coming in over \$10,000 the municipality was required to procure at least 3 bids and award the contract to the company that bid the lowest.

Finlay Stewart: Orange MA

- Fire performer
- Finlay advised the town to end affiliation with the contracted party due to past allegations.

Inanna Arthen: Winchendon MA

- Winchendon Citizen, Event/conference organizer

- Inanna advised the town to ensure everything is done by the book, paid up front and contract fulfilled to avoid any problems that may present themselves. Inanna also voiced concerns about the bad PR that has been going out over social media.

The commission thanks Andy, Finlay and Inanna for taking the time to join the parks and rec meeting to voice their concerns and share their information and experiences with the commission.

Commission feedback

- Reviewed the law requirements of bidding and contracts
- Discussed the origins of Wyndonshire, concerns, and reservations regarding this event
- Voiced great appreciation for community feedback
- Updates are being made to the park rental agreement for people interested in doing bigger events like this in the town.
- Discussed the 2025 season as a whole and should the responsibility again fall to the commission to both host and run the Renaissance Faire, most of the members stated that they would rather focus on putting our efforts toward making the rest of the 2025 season a success.
- A suggestion for a music festival was presented by a commission member.
- The commission is going to request a change to the theme of one of the Farming is Life events.

Dylan made a motion to approve the minutes from 12-10-2024

Jennifer second

All approved motion carries

Deb Bradley made a motion to approve but not release the executive meeting minutes from 12-10-2024

Dylan second

All approve

Motion carries

Jennifer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18.

Dylan second

All approved

Motion passes

Approved 3/4/2025