

**Town of Winchendon
Winchendon Parks and Recreation Commission
July 11, 2023 Minutes-6:30pm
4th Floor Conference Room, Town Hall**

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK
RCUD AUG 2 2023 AM8:47

Committee Members Present: Dawn Higgins, Tiffany Newton (Recreation Coordinator), Debra Bradley (chair), Andrew Beauvais, Debra Kane, Emily Croteau, Emily Bradley

Absent Members: Dylan Romanowski

Non- Members: Melanie Lillie

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m.

New Member Interest: Still looking for new members, Melanie is interested in getting involved but maybe not committing to the committee, Erin Pezecka is possibly interested, Dawn is following up with her. Mary Helen Black expressed interest but wasn't sure if her work would allow her to attend this meeting, she plans to be involved even if not on the committee.

As we may have all heard David has resigned from the commission due to some other obligations coming up within his church

Recreation Coordinator Updates

Event Re-caps

- Food Truck Festival
 - Overall very good, some issues with the bounce house
 - Having the tent with seating underneath was a good idea that we should continue
 - Income was \$646 which still equaled a loss of \$536 of out of pocket cost
 - This didn't include the \$600 from cultural council or the \$2,500 from RBF
 - We should continue to ask for the infrastructure cost for the Food Truck Festival
 - Next year we should consider hiring the food trucks ourselves to bring in additional revenue
- Whiskey Crossing
 - Overall good feedback, the band was great
 - Turn out could have been better as the weather was a deterrent, only about 30 attendees.
 - We made enough money to cover the sound engineer and the police detail but did not make any money to recoup the band fee
- Movie nights
 - So far we have made \$795 on the 1st 3 movie nights before accounting for any concessions
 - We average around 100 attendees most nights

- We have paid \$450 in movie licensing fees so we have a total revenue so far of \$345
- Summer concert series
 - There was not great attendance, only 30 people or so
 - Tiffany suggested that we should consolidate our concerts in 2024 and hold everything at the amphitheater. (Some free and some paid)

Old Business

Summer Yoga

- We currently have 3 series pass holders and 1 one time holder
- Stephanie still wants to hold it and it is slated to start tomorrow morning

Member Initiatives

- Dawn- Joining an online forum and trying to find a travelling group
- Emily B.-Considering reaching out to see if the Whalom revive group will travel here.
- Emily C.-She is getting her proposal ready to present to the boosters
- Andrew- Has done a lot of research on boat rental systems
 - He found a company that has no upfront cost to the town starting at 4 units
 - The company also carries all the insurance requirements but Tiffany will check with the town to make sure that that is sufficient
 - Tiffany will send Andrew the info from the MA boating and fishing group about putting in a boat launch (need to discuss with Brian too)
 - An added idea is that seeing we don't seem to need grant money for a boat rental could we do a bike rental system at the bike path
 - Community sponsors for each bike?

Crafternoon Input

- Paint night or pottery- could contact Deb G about hosting
- Basket weaving- Deb K is going to try to find information about the local woman who teaches it

2024 Paid Admission Event input

- Deb Bradley gave the name of a band Tequila Sunrise-an Eagles tribute band
- The committee talked about bringing Theater to the Amphitheater
 - Tiffany noted that she had been looking into this but we needed our own headset mics to accommodate a full theater production as well as to pay for the licensing fees

New Business:

Volunteers for the Next week

- Tiffany will be on vacation
 - July 16th- Deb B will be point person with Dawn and Emily B helping
 - We do have 1 additional volunteer signed up
 - July 20th- Deb B and Andrew will be in charge of set up

- Deb K and Dawn said they can also be there
- July 21st- Dawn said she can run the table and Deb B said she will be there if Dawn needed help

Pricing Change for Family Weekend

- Tiffany suggested that to get this event up and going that there should just be fees for the movie (\$5) and to enter family Olympics (\$25 per family).
- The commission agreed that this was a better way to encourage participation and earn good will with the community

Handicap drop-off signs

- Other signs needed are
 - Overflow parking
 - Handicap dropoff
 - No-thru traffic during events
 - No bikes in amphitheater during events
 - 5mph sign?- ask Brian
- Some concerns about bands needing different access
 - There will be a gate installed at the top of the drop off area so this should reduce any issues

Minutes

- Dawn made a motion to approve the minutes from June 20, 2023 as presented Andrew 2nd
Debra B (Y) Dawn (Y) Debra K (Y) Emily B (A) Andrew (Y) Emily C (Y) Dylan ()

Financials

Monthly Finance Recap-Begin new fiscal year

- There were no questions or concerns about the budget
- There was a request to put expenses in red for more ease of reading

Other Business

- None at this time

Adjourned: 8:18 p.m.

Dawn made a motion to adjourn and Andrew 2nd

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

Approved:

Emily Coteau

Andrew

Deb Kane

Debra Bradley

Dawn Higgins