

5/2/23

**Town of Winchendon  
Winchendon Recreation Commission  
April 18, 2023 Minutes-6:30pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium, Town Hall**

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK  
RCUD MAY 3 2023 AM 11:29

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

**Absent Members:** Abby Bradley, Emily Bradley

**Non- Members:** Justin Sultzbach (zoom)

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

**Town Manager Revenue Discussion**

- While it isn't ideal we need to discuss driving revenue
- The money brought in by Recreation will be solely used for Recreation to help fund staff, DPW Maintenance, lights and programming ect.
- Recreation is a unique commission and we need to demonstrate that we deserve to exist within the town and the only way to get a leg to stand on is to show we can be somewhat self-sustaining- especially as we move into the next 5 year projection of hard economic times.

Asked to take minutes out of order

**Minutes**

- Debra motioned to approve the minutes from March 28, 2023 and April 11, 2023 as presented. Andrew 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Debra B (Y) Dawn (Y) Abigale ( ) Emily B ( ) Emily C (Y) Andrew (Y)

**Old Business**

*Medium-Bonnie Page*

- We picked a Saturday and it was noted to do a Sunday so commission agreed to host on Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup> at 2pm instead

*Yoga at the Park*

- Pricing-\$15 per class \$75 for all 6 or \$20 per class \$100 for all 6
  - Both include a free water bottle if you do a pass for all 6
- Commission agreed to do the higher price point based on other outdoor yoga classes in the area but to also raffle off a yoga mat and tank with the 6 class pass.

*Movie Nights*

- Need to discuss pricing and VIP seating
- This goes hand in hand with the driving revenue discussion
- Price point is \$5 per person for tickets with a goal of \$450 in revenue each movie (90 ppl)
- Additional fee for VIP seating- seat side service, preset up lawn chairs
- Concessions are for sale-Popcorn, Drinks, Candy \$2 or a deal 1 of each for \$5

- Deb made a motion to set the movie pricing as stated above and Emily C 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Debra B (Y) Dawn (Y) Abigale () Emily B () Emily C (Y) Andrew (Y)

#### *Finalize Winchendon Wheels*

- Bike tour down to the large bike at bike path
- Bike parade for kids with decorated bikes
- BMX show cost
  - Mountain Bike Show \$2500
  - BMX Show \$3000
- Sell kits to decorate your bike
- We need to get food vendors for this day
- We need to figure out pricing for the weekend as a whole
  - Tiffany suggested a family of up to 6 for \$100
  - Andrew suggested packages Bronze, Silver, Gold with a price per person that includes different things with each package
- The commission agreed the tiered pricing was the best way to go

#### *Family Olympics*

- Need to decide on the games to be played.
- A spreadsheet of games was given out to the commission and it was decided we should start with 8 games
- 12 games were picked with some being optional fillers
  - Human Ring toss, Water Frisbee Fill, Beach Ball Race, 3 Legged Race, Pool Noodle Javelin, Potato Sack Race, Sling Shot Catch, Parent Call, Carry the kids, Elephant Bowling, Line 'Em up, Tug O' War, Wheelbarrow Race
- We need additional sling shots
- We should get face painting and a bounce house
  - Prompted a conversation about if we should buy a bouncy house instead of keep renting it.
  - Andrew Made a motion that Recreation look into purchasing a bouncy house if it can fit within our available budget. Emily C 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Debra B (Y) Dawn (Y) Abigale () Emily B () Emily C (Y) Andrew (Y)

- Tug O' war should be our last game and we should see if we can borrow rope from the school
- We should really be looking for sponsors for these events as well.

#### **New Business:**

##### *October Community Day*

- Tiffany had a meeting with the Clark about partnering to bring Trunk or Treat up to the park.- Approx. kids 500
- They are on board to start trunk of treat at 2pm in the soccer field.
- We will also have our pet parade looking to start at 3:30 (ish)
- Plead the 5th from 4-7pm

- Other activities include pumpkins light up, pumpkin bowling, haunted trails, spooky stories with smores, hay rides and face painting.
- Food by The Twisted Pickle and Moeshmellows
- We should have a rain date for this event but the following weekend is tentative for our Murder Mystery Dinner
- Deb said she will take charge of the murder mystery dinner if we need to host both events on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### *November Community Day*

- Smaller shorter event from 1pm-3pm
- Try to get the Red Apple Farm up
- November 5<sup>th</sup> is national Donut Day we could hold a can drive and anyone who brings can goods gets a free donut
- Football themed activities
- Turkey Trail Trot- a funny short run
- Turkey "Hunt"

#### *Town Wide Scavenger Hunt*

- Tiffany suggested that we cancel this and replace it with Scooper Bowl idea
- Everyone agreed to this change

#### *New Events*

- Chicken BBQ
  - Should we have this as a sort of fundraiser (revenue Driver) at our July 1 events?-YES
  - Sell 100 tickets ect.
- Cookie Crawl
  - December event where buy a ticket and entitles them to a free or discounted cookie at each participating location
  - Can vote on their favorite cookie
  - YES- should begin at tree lighting to draw people in.
- Pizza Crawl
  - Similar to cookie crawl but with pizza shops.
  - We can make this regional and give a golden pizza pan "Best Pizza 2023"
  - We should hold this in Feb when there isn't as much programming and we don't need to find an indoor location.
- Flip Flop Contest
  - \$5 gets you a pair of flip flops to decorate
  - We can get the Wachusett Community Crafters to come in for a swap or make our own decorating kits for an additional cost.
  - People can vote their favorite pair
  - This can tie in with our August community day
  - YES
- Fashion show
  - Make your outfit out of anything but fabric
  - Back to school fashion can be held in September
  - YES
- Renaissance Faire

- Yes but not until 2024
- Socktober Sock Hop
  - Hold an old fashion sock hop with a 50's/60's band.
  - Bring a pair of socks and get a discount
  - Refreshments-partner with someone local
  - Decades photo backdrop and maybe a photographer
- Bingo
  - We could hold this if we get/borrow the equipment as a revenue driver
- Scooper Bowl
  - Dawn suggested Scooper Sunday.
  - This will be held August 20<sup>th</sup> instead of Town Scavenger Hunt
  - We can have trivia on stage as well
  - Local Ice cream places we should reach out to are
    - Lickety Splitz,
    - Murdock Farm
    - Carols
    - Kimballs
    - Little Lizzy's?
  - Still need to work out the logistics of this event.

## Financials

- None at this time

## Other Business

- We should consider an OctoberFest type event
- Elton John & Billy Joel Tribute band reached out they charge \$1,200. If we got a \$1000 sponsor could be swing the other \$200 for a free concert event.
  - Yes if we check the budget to double check
- The cost for the foam for the back to school bash is expensive
  - Unanimous to nix it
- Crafternoons
  - A Felting class came to light and should we consider starting to book them for the fall to help fill in the programming once it gets colder out.
    - YES
- Looking for more ideas to bulk up November and October and December as well
- July Event
  - To round it out should we add watermelon eating contest and trivia?
    - YES
- Do we need rights to play music at events?
  - Tiffany to find out
- Can we advertise on Radio (WXLO and 103.7)
  - Tiffany to look into it and pricing
  - Can the stations set their trucks up at events?
- Dog tag advertising idea
  - Liked the idea, town had some concerns, Tiffany will find out more.

**Adjourned:** 7:52p.m.

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

Debra B (Y) Dawn (Y) Abigale () Emily B () Emily C (Y) Andrew (Y)

**Approved:**

Dawn Higgins  
Emily Cateau  
Debra Bradley  
Andrew 2<sup>nd</sup>