

Newport Parks and Recreation
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Recreation Committee
November 24th, 2020 | 5:30 PM (Virtual)

Present at Meeting: Deb Smith, Jennifer Smith, Jaime Comtois, Shari-Lee Ryan, Chad Prue, Vaughn Cloney and Mike Nolan

Absent: AJ Thurston, Amy Pickering and Mandy Rondeau

Guest: Laura Smith, Jessica Booth

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:42 by Jennifer Smith.

Review of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed, minutes edited for clarification of signs needed for the coin drop and to cancel cookie exchange at Debs house. A motion was made by Jenn Smith to accept minutes and changes, 1st Vaughn Cloney 2nd by Jaime Comtois and unanimously approved.

Public Comment: None

Fundraising Update:

- Bottle money for November \$374.77
- Total bottle money collected \$3461.64
- Total MyRec \$781.50
- Total remaining to raise \$1422.94 for Gardner Park Playground and Splash Pad

Program Debrief: Pumpkin Palooza

- Great turnout, positive comments from the public, school contribution helped make it a success, and brighter lights inside the pumpkins.
- Was a good idea scheduling floor cleaner after event - never knew there was an event like that inside after cleaned
- The Recreation Committee turned out in force plus several members of their families.
Thank you!
- Would be nice to have shirts, vests or jackets to identify us as members.

Program & Event Planning Discussion:

- Summer Programming has been restructured to emphasise more specialty camps.
- Searching for summer program ideas and individuals that may be willing to teach them, reach out to Jess.

- Suggestion: lego camp, ultimate frisbee, tots basketball program, curling, jewelry making, archery, paddleboarding, water skiing, swim lessons, etc...

Fundraising Projects:

- Discussion on Ice Shack Raffle. Considering selling 250 tickets instead of 200 because they sold out so quickly. Some members had a concern about sales given the pandemic. Vaughn will price out an ice shack to see if pricing or availability has been impacted. He will email the committee once he has some numbers so the committee can make an informed decision on a second Ice Shack Raffle event.
- Once we hit our goal for Gardner Park Playground/Splash Pad, we can tone down the fundraising effort, but continue contributing to the Rec Trust for future projects/events run by the committee.
- Bottle return funds will continue going future maintenance of the new park.

Public Recreation:

- Municipal building has been closed to the public.
- Light parade scheduled for Dec 12th at 5:00

Updates from Parks and Rec:

- Pomerleau meals will be delivered Dec 12th, anyone interested in helping with delivery can reach out to Jess or Laura for more information.
- EPA Study had begun, but was suspended due to a COVID scare, if wells are not put in this fall before the ground is frozen it may push the Gardner Park Playground/Splash Pad install date back again.

Other Business:

- Mike inquired if there was any discussion for a new recreation building in the works. Jess replied that there wasn't anything in the five year capital plan.
- Committee will start the application process for new members.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:42 P.M..

Next meeting will be Thursday, December 17th at 5:30 P.M. (virtual) Please let Jenn know at least one week in advance if you can't make it.