

Newport Parks and Recreation
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Recreation Committee
November 21, 2019 | 6:00 PM

Present at Meeting: Deb Smith, Jennifer Smith, Shari-Lee Ryan, AJ Thurston, Vaughn Cloney, Jaime Comtois and Amy Pickering

Absent: Mike Nolan and Marin Gardyne

Guest: Jessica Booth and Laura Smith

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:25 by Jennifer Smith following the Community Update on the Gardner Park Playground Project that began at 5:30.

I. Review of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and a motion was made by Jaime Comtois to accept minutes 1st by Shari-lee Ryan, 2nd by Amy Pickering.

II. Public Comment

No comments

III. Consideration of Open Issues

1. Fundraising update:

- \$500 donation by Paul Monette
- Bottle Drive \$53

2. Program & Event Debriefing:

- **Monster Bash** - Mike Nolan, Vaughn Cloney and Marin Gardyne volunteered to judge costumes at this year's event. Marin was unable to attend, so Jess Booth stepped in for her. It was an amazing turnout/great event approximately 1200 people and nice weather. Judges thought it was easier going up and down main street this year instead of judging from Pomerleau Park during the ghost walk.
- **Gardner Park Launch Event** - decent turnout, food was fantastic, commitment of \$10,000 from Jay Peak and offer to possibly use their campus for future fundraising events. Newport Rental gave a check for \$1000 and North Country Hospital was our first

platinum sponsor with a donation of \$40,000. Goal is to have corporate sponsors commitment forms in by the end of January.

3. Program & Event Planning Discussion

- **Adult Dance** - Possible March dance, a subcommittee consisting of AJ Thurston, Jaime Comtois and Jennifer Smith will plan a meeting and choose a date.
- **Winter Festival** - Event will be moved to Prouty Beach Feb. 29th, Deb Smith, Amy Pickering, Jennifer Smith and Shari-Lee Ryan will volunteer to sell concessions. Event will include sliding party, skate on the bay and chuck a puck (weather permitting). Looking into a progressive story walk for kids and horse drawn sleigh rides.
- **Mother/Son Dance** - May 8th, 9th and 10th Jennifer Smith will reach out to see if the venue is available. Volunteers: AJ Thurston will work Friday and tear down on Sunday, Shari will work Friday, Deb will work Friday, Sat evening and Sunday, Jennifer will work for two nights, Jaime will work Friday. Laura will help us out Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Amy will reach out to students at the high school for volunteering opportunities. Sub committee will gather and choose a theme.
- **Spring Golf Tournament** - David Jankowski is stepping down due to PGA competition and AJ Thurston will take over the golf tournament. AJ will reach out to Josh Olney at the Orleans Country Club and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

4. Fundraising Projects:

- **Buy-A-Brick** - The goal is to raise \$14,000. To do this, we will need to sell 175 bricks. We have sold 5 so far.
- Jaime will call to schedule bowling tournament in April.
- Deb volunteered to organize superbowl football squares again in February.
- **Crop Event** - January 25, 2020 purchase a table for \$25 spend the day scrapbooking, quilting, painting, hobbying etc...location at the gym and will be a potluck. Amy and Jaime will volunteer to set up tables. Jaime will connect with Laura to give her information etc. so participants can register online through the Rec. Dept.
- **Ice Out contest** - Committee needs to come up with an idea for a theme :)
- **Side/Side Raffle** - will be held in the Springtime, Jess will email us with additional information. We should set a limit on the amount of tickets we sell, selling tickets for \$100 a piece. Vaughn will talk to Steve at Wright Wheels about cost to add a trailer. Will report back at next meeting.

5. Community Involvement

- **ATV Ordinance** - update was given by Jess Booth. Mike Nolan requested this be on the agenda to discuss some thoughts about how the Recreation Committee might be

involved with training courses or help with survey/data collection after the trial period.
Tabled until next meeting to discuss more when Mike is present.

- **Light Up the Night Parade** - being hosted by Bob & Ann Kelley on December 7th beginning at the Numia building on Farrant Street and ending in Derby.

6. Updates from Parks & Rec Office:

- **Discount Tickets** - Parks & Rec will have discount Jay Peak lift, rental and pump house tickets available on Sundays beginning December 1.
- **Costume Swap** - Currently accepting halloween costumes until the end of November. Will set boxes up next September for the community to donate for a Costume Swap in early October next year.

7. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Pomerleau Party** - December 14th - Volunteers December 13th Deb Smith all day and AJ Thurston 1-4:00. December 14th - 10:00 - 3:00 table elves Amy Pickering and Jaime Comtois. Shari can attend for the first portion of the event. Jess will send out and email with additional information.
- **Skate with Santa** - December 23rd - will be held at the Gardner Park ice rink. Rec committee will provide cookies for the event to give out to families at no charge.

8. Other business:

- **Randi Lee** has been our photographer for many events but is stepping into a career change. Jess reached out to see if she would be willing to sell some gear to us so we can host our own photo booths at events. She has put a very inclusive package deal together with backdrops, props, flash and camera for \$800. A motion was made to share in the cost with Parks & Recreation with \$400 out of the Recreation Trust. Shari-Lee made a motion, Vaugh 2nd and vote passed unanimously.

9. Meeting was adjourned at 8:08, next meeting December 19th @ 6:00.