

**Newport Parks and Recreation**  
**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Recreation Committee**  
**December 19, 2019 | 6:00 PM**

**Present at Meeting:** Deb Smith, Jennifer Smith, AJ Thurston, Vaughn Cloney, Jaime Comtois and Mike Nolan

**Absent:** Shari-Lee Ryan, Amy Pickering, Marin Gardyne and Lori Wells

**Guest:** Jessica Booth, Laura Smith, Mayor Paul Monette and Chris Vachon

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Jennifer Smith.

### **I. Review of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and a motion was made by Jennifer Smith to accept minutes 1st by Debbie Smith, 2nd by Vaughn Cloney.

### **II. Public Comment**

Chris Vachon introduced himself and will be running for city council in 2020. Paul Monette gave us the final \$250 of the \$1,000 he has donated including two bricks.

### **III. Consideration of Open Issues**

1. Fundraising update:
  - Last Month's Bottle Drive \$95.35
  
2. Program & Event Planning Discussion
  - **Adult Dance** - Sub Committee will meet Jan 6th at 5:15 in the Senior Center
  - **Winter Festival** - February 29th Festival will start at 4:00 fireworks at 7:00. Weather will determine the location of our concession stands/tents. We will also have a tent to sell Chuck A Puck's. Jaime will contact Wendy's for a donation of chili, Vaughn will reach out to Casey Moulton for a donation of soups, Jennifer has offered to supply hot dogs, buns and steamer. Deb, Shari and Amy will donate baked goods. Rec department will supply water and hot cocoa. Chris Vachon will reach out to Neil and Rebecca Perry for the horse drawn sleigh rides.
  - **Mother/son Dance** - Dates have been confirmed with the gateway. We will do a Castle/Knight theme, Jennifer will reach out to Dave Bennett to be the DJ. We have purchased Randi Lee's photography equipment and will do our own photos.
  - **Golf tournament** - no update. AJ will have something to present at the January meeting.

### 3. Fundraising Projects:

- **Buy-A-Brick** - The goal is to raise \$14,000. Pomerleau Family Foundation has graciously donated a brick for each of the families that attend the Pomerleau party. Forty-five families have completed forms. There was a lengthy discussion about small businesses wanting to buy a brick but couldn't afford a \$5000 dollar donation. A suggestion was to have a \$500 dollar brick for businesses, this would consist of a different color brick and would not be mixed in with the family bricks. The committee decided to wait until all members of the board could weigh in on this suggestion before making a decision.
- **Bowling tournament** - this will be held Jan 19th, set up will start at 11:00. Jaime will make a poster and get it to the bowling alley. An email will be sent out to solicit volunteers. It was also decided that the Rec committee and Rec department will put in two teams - watch for an email on this too.
- **Football Squares** - Laura Smith will facilitate squares since Deb will be traveling with her husband in February.
- **Crop Event** - January 25, 2020 Jaime sent information out to Laura, Laura will get the information out on MyRec so people can register online. A decision was made to allow crafting vendors to pay for a table (\$30)
- **Ice Out contest** - Committee is excited to hear what Mac's theme will be.
- **Ice Shack Raffle** - Vaughn will get additional information, we will move on this quickly because of the upcoming ice fishing tournament. We voted on a \$3500 budget selling tickets for \$25 each or two for \$40. Jessica will send out an email with additional information and to solicit volunteers to attend upcoming fishing tournaments.

### 4. Community Involvement

- **ATV Ordinance** - January 14th 8:00am - 7:00pm please pass this date around to family and friends. Absentee ballots are available in the City Clerk's office. People can call and have them mailed to their home. Vote **Yes** to repeal the ordinance Vote **No** to keep the ordinance.

### 5. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- Bowling tournament
- Winter Festival
- Selling tickets for the Ice Shack at fishing tournaments

### 6. Other business:

- Our one year anniversary :) Reflection on the past year. Although much, MUCH of our work has revolved around fundraising for Gardner Park, we also believe that we have stayed true to our mission statement. We have accomplished a lot over the past year thanks to the hard working volunteers on our committee. We all look forward to the Gardner Park project being completed so energy can be focused less on fundraising and more substantive contributions/projects for the community.

### 7. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55, next meeting January 16th @ 6:00.