

Newport Parks and Recreation

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Recreation Committee

December 9, 2021, City Council Room

Present: Jennifer Smith, Deb Smith, Jaime Comtois, Shari Ryan

Absent: Kelli Rhodes, Mandy Chaput, Chad Prue

Others: Mike Brown

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:39 PM by Jennifer Smith.

Review of Previous Minutes:

- Debbie made a motion to approve the minutes, Jamie made the second. The minutes of the 11/18/2021 meeting were reviewed. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Comments by Members of the Public

- No members of the public present to provide comment(s).

Monthly Fundraising Update:

- Buzzy's and Thompson money collected.
- Tips from Light up Newport totaled \$89.69 and were put in rec trust.

Program & Event Debriefs:

- Light Up Newport
 - What went well: Very organized, Over 400 people attended, Would like to have this be an annual event, Public Works did a great job
 - Things to consider for next year:
 - Pre-bag popcorn
 - More goodie bags for kids
 - One gallon jugs to fill coffee urns
 - Have more coffee urns
 - Have Santa at Gateway before to have professional pics in front of the fireplace then have Santa head to park on firetruck at 4:30
 - Have a holiday market set up - upstairs at Gateway
 - Who owns the lighthouse? Could we use a dutch door and fix the frost heave issue we could hand out cocoa from that.
 - How can we incorporate other businesses that day?
 - Can we get the chorus to join us or Christmas carols?
 - Can we get the Newport City school to join us to sing? Or choose a name to turn on the lights with Santa?
 - Bonfire?
 - Wagon rides on the bike path?

Program & Event Planning Discussion

- NEK Hoops
 - It seems like more work than we can commit to, we are not ready to commit to doing this every Saturday- finding volunteers is already tough for the events we host
 - Vote: Should we take over the NEK Hoops program?-5 Nay, 1 Yay
 - Jenn to communicate with Mike Stanley about the committee's decision- hopefully he can find someone to do it so the program is not lost to our youth.

Fundraising Projects

- Ice Shack Raffle
 - Mike will edit and order tickets (325)
 - Winner will be drawn once all tickets are sold.
 - It will be dark blue.
 - We will keep this raffle for Playground Fund
 - Jaime will reach out to Big D's to see if they will sell tickets.
 - Jenn will reach out to Wright's to see if they will sell tickets.
 - Hoping to have tickets to sell in time for Christmas

Public Recreation

- Bike Rodeo - No new update, See last month's minutes
- Mother Son Dance/Father Daughter Dance
 - Mike will contact DJ and photographer
 - Be thinking about a theme - Olympics theme?
 - Discussion around dates of dances- FDD and Winterfest are currently scheduled for the same weekend in February- Mike to look at Gateway availability to see if we can push back

Updates from the Parks & Recreation Office

- Winterfest - starting think of plans, Mike will email his list of ideas for us to look at

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- Winterfest- Feb 26, 2022

Other Business

- Chad Prue has resigned from the committee. We need to start looking for new members to join the committee. Mike to help start the process.
- Jenn will draw up the letter for the coin drop and Mike will get it into council's hands before Jan. 1st.

Set Date and Agenda for Next Meeting

January 20th, 2021 at 5:30 P.M.

Adjourn 6:43 p.m.