

Newport Parks and Recreation
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Recreation Committee
February 18, 2021 | 5:30 PM (Virtual)

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

Absent: Vaughn Cloney

Guest: Laura Smith

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:35 by Jennifer Smith.

Review of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Jenn Smith to accept minutes. 1st Deb Smith 2nd by Jaime Comtois and unanimously approved.

Public Comment: None

Fundraising Update:

- Bottle money for January \$151.57 (Bottle drive has raised \$4000 since we started September 2019)
- MyRec \$150
- Go Fund Update: \$10,000+ (we have surpassed our goal)

Program Debrief: NA

Program & Event Planning Discussion: NA

Fundraising Projects/ideas:

Ice Shack Raffle

- We have sold enough tickets to pay for the shack and reach our \$24,000 goal (applause) 20 +/- tickets left
- Winning ticket will be pulled on Facebook live @ 6:30 Feb27th at Gardner Park Ice Shack, all committee members encouraged to attend.

Ice Out:

- Penguin design by Mac, nice job Mac it looks great
- Selling tickets at Town Meeting, Jenn will email a schedule for those that can volunteer to cover a shift
- Will discuss selling tickets at Tim & Doug's - Covid issues with social distancing

Public Recreation:

- Mother/Son Dance - start collecting donations for gifts now

- Community members reached out to the rec department to inquire about a parent-child dance, this was discussed and the committee decided that hosting another dance was not possible at this time. The committee agreed that we would never turn anyone away from attending the dance. We would also help guide and give ideas to individuals who might want to entertain the thought of hosting their own dance.
- Sliding hill at Prouty Beach a huge success, suggestion was made to install lights for night sliding. Gates Electric already fixing the surrounding lights and adding new ones

Other Business:

- No coin drop for the committee this year, another organization submitted their letter first.
- \$25,000 put into the budget to tear down the grandstand, a different committee has been formed to raise money to repair the grandstand. A Committee has been formed, chaired by Roger Cartee to restore the grandstand in Gardner Park. We discussed the Gardner Park Grandstand restoration project and unanimously agreed that we will not be able to assist that special committee at this time because their objectives do not align with Recreation Committee goals or the Waterfront & Downtown Master Plan.
- Committee member gear - Mike will email a powerpoint with several suggestions again, please reply with a favorite so that we can discuss the next meeting.
- Mike suggested an online talent competition, this was met with a lot of enthusiasm from the committee. Mike will email everyone with some ideas.
- Vaughn has stepped down, so we are looking for two full time members, AJ has moved to an alternate
- Next meeting will be the re-election of officers, Deb will be stepping down as secretary.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:24 P.M..

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. (virtual) Please let Jenn know at least one week in advance if you can't make it.