

Newport Parks and Recreation
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Recreation Committee
January 10,2019 | 6:00 PM

Location of Meeting

Newport Municipal Building
222 Main St
Newport, VT 05855

Present at Meeting: Jessica Booth, Nicole Gratton, Louise Whipple, Mike Nolan, Adam Thurston, Jaime Comtois, Deb Smith, David Jankowski, Margarita Brown, Jennifer Smith, Shari-Lee Ryan

Absent: Marin Gardyne

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Jennifer Smith.

I. Review of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. Consideration of Open Issues

1. Mission Statement

Committee discussed and drafted the following mission statement: "The mission of the Newport Recreation Committee is to promote citizen involvement and foster a strong sense of community through the advocacy of diverse recreational opportunities in safe, well-maintained facilities, while enhancing the social, cultural and physical well-being of its residents and visitors year-round." The committee will consider over the next month and vote on a statement at the next meeting.

2. Sub-committees

Breaking into smaller sub-committees for the Gardner Park Project to take advantage of individual strengths and weaknesses. Mike Nolan would prefer marketing, and the group suggested that it may be a strength for Marin too. Fundraising committee will include: Shari-Lee Ryan, Deb Smith, Maggie Brown and Jennifer Smith.

3. Fundraising for Gardner Park Restoration

The group decided to start Superbowl squares as soon as possible. Debbie will spearhead this and send details to the group. Motion by Louise Whipple and seconded by Mike Nolan.

Other suggested fundraising ideas included bring appropriations to surrounding schools and towns to see if they're willing to support the project with some funding/fundraising. Shari-lee Ryan will look into this.

Group discussed crowd funding and the possibility of exploring that model in partnership with local banks, specifically Passumpsic Bank. The committee is curious to know if the bank would be willing to match any contributions made by the community. Jennifer Smith will investigate and update the group at our next meeting.

Nicole Gratton will look into fundraising on social media, specifically Facebook birthday fundraisers.

Louise Whipple and Mike Nolan will look into a color run for this summer.

Dave Jankowski along with Adam Thurston will begin the planning process of a golf scramble and bring an update at our next meeting. A motion to move forward on this was made by Shari-lee Ryan and seconded by Louise Whipple.

Ice Out was discussed and a motion made by Dave Jankowski to continue this and seconded by Margarita Brown. Jessica Booth will get tickets and signage started immediately.

Chuck-a-Puck will continue at Winter Festival with a motion made by Shari-lee Ryan to raise the price from two dollars to five this was seconded by Jamie Comtois. Volunteers will need to be present at Winterfest to sell Pucks.

Jenn Smith updated the group on a coin drop request submitted to the Newport City Council which will be voted on at the February 4th Council Meeting. Jessica Booth discussed ongoing bottle redemptions too.

4. Volunteer Opportunities

Father Daughter Dance will need volunteers, dates are February 15th-17th. Debbie Smith and Jamie Comtois will volunteer. Jessica will send out an email with details.

5. Other Business

Mike Nolan suggest that we extend the length or frequency of Rec Committee meetings to accomplish more work. The committee agreed to extend meetings from one to two hours in length. A motion was made by Shari-Lee Ryan to expand the time but to cap it at two hours. This was seconded by Margarita Brown

Agenda and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on Thursday, February 7th.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:14 with a motion made by Shari-lee Ryan and seconded by Margarita Brown.