

**Guilford Recreation Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 21, 2019 - 6:30-8:00 Guilford Town Office**

**I. Commissioners and Selectboard in attendance:** Wendy Stone, Eric Jones, Chris Zappala, Verandah Porche, Tadj Schreck

**II. Recognition of Public:** no public in attendance

**III. Call to Order:** 6:34

**IV. New Additions:** Added Fundraising to New Business

**V. Changes to Agenda:** no other changes

**VI. Approval of Minutes:** from July 10, 2019. Tadj moved to approve July minutes. Eric seconded and motion was approved. Wendy motioned to accept minutes from June. Chris seconded, and the motion was approved.

**VII. Finances:** Eric gave us our financial report. We received our \$5,695 deposit from the town for our 19/20 fiscal year, and we spent \$272 on food for the community picnic. We also received a \$33 donation for the playscape and Eric is setting up a separate account for playscape donations.

**VIII. Old Business:**

Community Wellness Grant Proposal- VT Dept. of Health- Elisha Underwood and Shyla Foss were unable to attend. We will discuss this grant further at the next meeting they attend. Wendy will also contact Elisha for more details about grant.

Community Picnic recap- We had a good turn out overall! Everyone had fun playing in the brook and with the games that we setup. In the future, we'd like to find a way to help people mingle more-- possibly through playing games on teams. We'd like to create more shade, and have more volunteers help with setup.

Playgroup update- Tadj updated us on the summer playgroup. The attendance has been low all summer, likely because we're competing with other weekend activities in the area. We decided to cancel the remainder of the summer playgroups, and pickup again late fall. Eric wrote a post on facebook explaining this decision. We'll decide on the start date for the fall/winter "open gym" playgroup in a future meeting. A new playgroup is starting up at the library on Mondays.

RiseVT Grant- Wendy updated us that we still haven't received our grant money, and she's hoping to hear from Elisha soon about grant disbursement. Because it is getting late in the growing season, we will plan to prepare raised beds this fall to plant in the spring. We do have a whiskey barrel on hold for the water pump though!

Building Communities Grant- Wendy submitted our grant on time, and it was received!

Bill Koch Nordic Ski Project- We need to start thinking about dates for distributing ski packages. We also need to check in with Jake about whether she still wants to spearhead this project this winter.

### **VIII. New Business:**

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)- survey and 8/19/19 meeting

-Wendy attended meeting. The major goal was to find out what recreational opportunities are important for Vermonters. A group of mountain bikers attended and advocated for more connections of trails to downtown Brattleboro and better coordination with railroads for bike trails. Another survey about Vermont recreation is forthcoming!

Fall Planning: Spooky Walk/Trunk or Treat collaboration discussion

-We decided that we'd like to collaborate with other Guilford organizations again.

-We probably won't host another movie.

-We'd like to co-host the spooky walk again with the Conservation Commission, but host it slightly later in the evening and host on Halloween.

-Trunk-or-Treat and dance party will be held on Saturday 10/26/19 from 5:30-7:30.

-Would like to involve the school and parents more in Trunk-or-Treat event. We brainstormed ways to best reach out to parents.

Winter Planning: Ice Skating at Weatherhead Hollow, Nordic Skiing at the Fairgrounds, Winter Sports at GCS, Nordic Ski lessons, Winterfest

-We discussed ice skating opportunities at Weatherhead Hollow pond and possibly Sweet Pond (if it fills on time!). Ultimately, we'd like to have Weatherhead Hollow pond cleared for ice skating throughout the winter, but this winter we decided to gauge interest by having snow shovels or a human-powered plow available at the pond this winter for interested people. We also would like to host a skating party when we have a good weekend for skating.

-We plan to discuss the potential of show-shoeing and nordic skiing at the fairgrounds this winter, and see if the Pittstoppers are able to groom some of the fairgrounds for us.

-Jake has been in contact with John Gagnon at GCS about including Nordic skiing in the winter sports program.

-We're planning on organizing Nordic ski lessons again this winter.

-Winterfest: We'd like to collaborate with other organizations again, and look into the possibility of having food trucks at the event. We'll decide on a date at a future meeting.

Fundraising for playscape: The Building Communities grant that Wendy applied for, is a dollar for dollar matching grant. We have enough in our rollover account from previous years to match the funds, but we decided that we'd like to fundraise at least some of the matching funds. We brainstormed ways to fundraise from placing water jugs/ coffee cans at the Country Store and town office, to sending postcards or letters to Guilford residents requesting support. Verandah volunteered to write an article for the next Gazette issue, and we will find out how much sending letters to residents might cost, as well as ask the library how well this fundraising strategy works for them.

**X. Adjournment:** 8:00pm

