

Minutes of Guilford Recreation Commission Meeting
Thursday, April 15, 2021 - 6:30-8:00
on-line meeting

I. Commissioners in attendance: Wendy Stone, Eric Jones, Jake Dixon, Mary Wallace -Collins, Ashley Kane (joined at 7pm), Chris Zappala

II. Recognition of Public:

no public was present

III. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:35

IV. New Additions:

A discussion of new archery lessons was added to the agenda

V. Approval of Minutes: from 3/10/21

Minutes were approved

VI. Finances:

Eric presented an update on the two projects the Commission has been fundraising for, and an update on the recent request to the selectboard for the Commission to collect on-line donations.

The Nordic Ski program is fully funded with \$1184

The Vermont State matching grant for the Playscape has received \$339. Another \$4290 is required to meet the amount of the matching grant. This amount can be met with the Commission reserve funds, if further fundraising is limited.

The Commission's request for access to on-line donations was denied by the Selectboard. Though Eric and Wendy presented the example of a recent donation that was "lost", and had to be resubmitted, because it could not be sent to the Recreation Commission directly, it is believed the Town Treasurer is against this process. The Selectboard wanted further study on the matter.

Eric is creating a proposal to present to the selectboard for approval in the future. It is projected that on-line donations will reduce the balance on the Vermont State grant.

A motion was made to express the Commission's support for creating a means to receive on-line donations. The motion was passed unanimously.

VII. Old Business:

Guilford Egg Hunt wrap up

The Easter Egg Hunt was a successful first event. Approximately 50 children partook in the event, Nordic Ski packages return

The Commission set times for return of the Nordic Ski Packages.

The initial dropoff dates will be:

Sunday, April 18, 3-5pm

Monday, April 19, 4-6pm

Tuesday, April 20, 4-6pm

Eric will notify participants of these times

Ski packages will be collected at the Commission shed at the Guilford Public Library

Fundraising: State of VT Recreation Grant

This was covered partly in the Finance discussion, The Commission will provide more information to the Selectboard and hope to get final approval to begin on-line fundraising.

Vermont Children's Trust Grant for the Playscape

The grant is awarded in June, but the payment is made in September. If the grant is awarded, the Commission will use reserve funds to build the sandbox and then replenish the reserve funds in September.

The contractor responsible for the sandbox also said it would take a delayed payment.

Neighborhood Roots Food Collective: Little Free Pantry at the Playscape

The Selectboard approved creating a space at the Playscape for pick up and dropoff of food for the community.

The Commission will meet with Jodie Hauser, coordinator of the Neighborhood Roots Food Collective effort, at the playscape to place placement for the Collective's efforts.

VIII. New Business:

Fort Dummer State Park Free Day Use Pass-

The Free Day Pass program that allows Guilford residents (with proof of residency) to use the park for free will continue again this year. Residents can pick up their passes at the entrance of the Fort Dummer State Park.

The motion to approve the program passed unanimously.

Playgroup Discussion/planning

In the past, the Commission has sponsored an outdoor playgroup Saturdays, through the summer, 9:30-11 AM. Lack of staffing this year as well as the pandemic, made the Commission hesitant to continue the program. The Commission believes it may make changes, beginning the playgroups in June, and holding them every other weekend. Further discussion and approval was tabled until the May Commission meeting.

Bike Night Discussion/planning

initial planning for Bike Night, to be held, June 19th, from 5-7:30 began.

Archery Lessons

Karen Givens, the Archery instructor for last year's Rec. Commission archery program is interested in holding classes again.

There was discussion about opening the program up to adults.

There is currently a fee for the program and it was suggested that the program be run with a donation based admission to be more equitable.

IX. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:36PM