

Guilford Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 13, 2021

I. Commissioners in attendance:

Eric Jones, Wendy Stone, Jake Dixon, and Chris Zappala attended the meeting held on GoogleMeet.

II. Recognition of Public:

No Public attending

III. Call to Order: 6:36pm

IV. New Additions:

new topic to add New commissioner recruitment

V. Changes to Agenda:

discussion of possible new members added.

VI. Approval of Minutes: from 4/15/21

4/15 minutes approved unanimously.

VII. Finances:

The Rec. Commission still has a positive balance.

The only additional expenses this month were from holding the Easter Egg Hunt. There may be additional expenses from that event as Commission member Ashley Kane has not submitted any of her own personal expenses.

VIII. Old Business:

Recap of the 2021 Bill Koch Nordic Ski Program:

This year 27 Nordic Ski Packages were loaned, all but one has been returned. The sole outstanding equipment package is with a child who is known to be out of town presently. The equipment is expected to be eventually returned.

Six packages from the prior year are still outstanding, though commissioners have made multiple efforts to contact the individuals who borrowed the equipment. Commissioners discussed further ways to account for the unreturned ski equipment.

Fort Dummer State Park Free Day Use Pass:

A Memorandum of Understanding was required for the day pass program. It was approved by the Selectboard and the Commission will send it back to the State.

It was noted that the cost of the daypass program has been minimal and has not been recorded in the Rec. Commission Budget. Going forward, with anticipated increased participation, the budget will reflect these expenses.

Bike Night Discussion/planning

Bike Night is scheduled for June 26th, 5-7:30pm. Rec. Commissioners are coordinating with school officials for permission and refreshment options.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and run the various games and events.

Playgroup Discussion/planning

The Rec. Commission has run a playgroup for young children in the past. Last meeting, we discussed the possibility of holding it at various Guilford playgrounds. While the Rec. Commission has co-sponsored these events with other groups in the past, currently there are no Rec. Commissioners with young children and willing to commit to holding and being present at such playgroups.

Vermont Children's Trust Grant for the Playscape

This grant was submitted and we will learn in June whether it was accepted.

Fundraising: State of VT Recreation Grant

The Commission is still responsible for \$4291 of the matching grant from the State. Rec.

Commission Treasurer made a report in favor of online fundraising to the Selectboard recently which they are studying further.

The commission discussed Putting a lockbox at the playscape for donations, but noted that any such arrangement would have to be secure and be checked and emptied regularly.

Neighborhood Roots Food Collective: Little Free Pantry at the Playscape

The Pantry coordinator reported that she plans to begin building and then stocking foods at the end of the school year.

IX. New Business:

Swim Lessons discussion

There was a suggestion from a community member to hold swimming lessons. Wendy contacted Beverly Wright, a swim coach and teacher, about her availability. While Ms. Wright offered 2 weeks during the summer, there are still too many variables to resolve before The Rec. Commission can approve such a sponsorship.

Archery classes

Karen Givens, the archery instructor for the previous lessons, is not available at this time.

Playscape: kiosk, swing, slide- work party date:

The Playscape kiosk and sign has been completed. A site was located for adding a swing.

Discussions continue around removing, replacing, or repositioning the existing slide.

Debris from the fallen tree was scheduled to be removed.

Peder Rude met with the landscapers to request that they mow outside of the path at the Playscape to inhibit the vegetation growing onto the path, as per Recreation Commission request.

Alisha Underwood, of RISE VT, contacted Wendy for information about the Guilford Playscape.

There are efforts to create a similar project in Townshend. Guilford is a model for other communities.

Recreation Commission shed:

The Conservation Commission has asked to use the Rec. Commission shed to store hoses.

Permission was granted by the Rec. Commissioners.

The Conservation Commission has also used the kiosk at the Playscape to post information and the invasive species, the Emerald Ash Borer.

The Commission will continue looking for and contacting community members to join the Rec. Commission.

X. Adjournment: 7:42pm.