

**Minutes for
Guilford Recreation Commission Meeting
Thursday, August 19, 2021**

I. Commissioners in attendance: Wendy Stone, Eric Jones, Jake Dixon, Ashley Kane, Ragan Beebe, Chris Zappala, Verandah Porche, Selectboard liaison, Mary Wallace-Collins (joined at 6:50)

II. Recognition of Public: no public present

III. Call to Order: 6:34pm

IV. New Additions:

A discussion of School Soccer was requested by Maggie Foley

V. Changes to Agenda:

no other changes

VI. Approval of Minutes: from 7/8/21

A clarification was submitted to the 7/8/21 minutes. The removal of the position of Sports Co-ordinator is a paid, not volunteer, position.

Minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

VII. Finances:

Eric Jones reports there are no changes in Commission finances which remain at \$2980.

There may be a \$100 delivery fee for sand donated to the Playscape.

The plans for mounting a fundraising campaign will either continue from where we are, or start anew.

Currently, the Rec. Commission has accepted one matching grant, The Vermont Recreation Grant. The commission has the funds to match the grant but is hoping to fundraise to preserve our resources.

There is currently no "payback" schedule known for the matching funds. It was questioned, if a deadline existed, was there also an extension given, due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The Finance Report was accepted unanimously

VIII. Old Business:

On-line Fundraising status: As the Rec. Commission continues to obtain permission to do online fundraising, the town clerk remains opposed to the idea. The Selectboard has charged Peder Rude, Town Administrator, to investigate two other towns of like-size that use online fundraising. It was noted that both the Guilford Free Library and the Guilford Fire Department have online fundraising efforts, but that they do this through their affiliation with non-town non-profit organizations.

Nordic Ski lending organization w/ the Library: Jake and Mary plan to meet with Cathi from the library to further plan the Nordic ski organization with the library. The Commission has agreed that Guilford Fire Department member, Tim Cleveland will be eligible to enroll his daughters in next year's ski program.

Community Picnic: Saturday, August 28th, at the Playscape: After some discussion of planning and the recent uptick in Covid-19 infection, the Commission voted to cancel this year's Community Picnic.

Project managers discussion: As Wendy and Eric are stepping down as Chair and co-chair of the Recreation Commission, Mary Wallace-Collins agreed to take on creating the meeting agendas and submitting them/ posting them 48 hours before each meeting.

Reagan agreed to head up the Playscape Committee

It was suggested that the Town Clerk or Town Administrator could provide the Financial reports for each meeting.

IX. New Business:

Sandbox at the Playscape: Wendy reports that there is a huge pile of sand at the Playscape, that logs will be delivered soon to encircle (or ensquare) the sand. Also, toys will be provided.

Trails discussion: Chris reported on his meeting with the Conservation Commission and Jeff Nugent of the Windham Regional Commission. It is thought that there are large amounts of funding that the WRC could then provide to communities it serves.

Transition planning: The out-going Chair and Co-Chair expressed their frustration with the lengthy, as-yet fruitless, efforts to establish online fundraising, the elimination of the School Sports Coordinator— occurring without prior notice to the Recreation Commission, and, lastly, miscommunication with the Town Administrator over the requirements and responsibilities of the Commission as it attempted to sponsor swimming lessons this summer.

Eric will remain to manage the Rec. Commission website. He and Ashley, and Ragan will maintain the facebook account.

Grant opportunities:

Commission members received an email detailing upcoming grant information.

While the School Sports Coordinator position was eliminated, there remains strong support in the community for maintaining a soccer program. Ashley will connect with Maggie Foley from the community about continuing the soccer program.

X. Adjournment:

8:04pm