

Recreation and Parks Committee Minutes Thursday, March 14, 2024

Members Present: In-person -Tim Armstrong, Cindy Provost, Danielle Doucette, and Carolyn Tesini
Zoom – Bob Metz

Members Absent: Tim Allard, Dave Cannamela

Also Present: In person - Todd Goodwin

Members of the Community Present: none

Meeting called to order: 7:30 AM

Changes or additions to agenda: none

Minutes: February Minutes- motion approved

Committee Agenda Items:

1. Budget Update

- a. The budget did not pass therefore a Selectboard meeting is organized for March 19, 2024, to discuss budget cuts.
- b. The Recreation Dept. has a \$1000 budget so there is nothing to give up as all the revenue is covered by programming income. Maintenance persons will remain intact as part-time and 2 seasonal positions will be combined.

2. Allen Brook Community Park RFQ – Dubois & King

- a. There were new plans sent by Loius, from Dubois & King
- b. He changed the entrance to the park, which is not desired by the committee, this will be addressed.
- c. There is no wetland study done at this time

3. Library – Recreation Center Committee

- a. It was decided to split the groups and have a committee focus on library addition, while another committee focus on finding land/location for a separate Recreation Center. Looking possibly at the years 2026 – 27 – 28.
- b. Todd shared with the town manager that the Library has a building, land, and staff, none of which the Recreation Dept has at this time. He also shared that the library should not take on the role of a Community Center.
- c. Todd shared that the Recreation Department needs its own building to continue to grow. Also, Allen Brook Community Park needs to be a priority for the community.

Reports:

- a. Spring / Summer guide is out as well as the Camp Guide. Both look great!!
- b. The VOREC grant was not awarded to Williston for the Recreation & Parks Master Plan.

Director's Report: attached

Meeting Adjourned - 8:10 AM.

Next Meeting - Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 7:00 AM.

Recreation & Parks Committee

Director's Report

March 2024

A. Programs

- a. Learn to Ski/Ride Program ended on Feb. 21
 - i. End of program trip to Smugglers was canceled due to conditions
 - ii. Planned to offer an extra Wednesday at Cochran's on March 6- Canceled
- b. Camp Guide mailed to homes in early February
 - i. Enrichment Camps- 280 registration
 - ii. Day Camps
 1. Rec Camp- 123
 2. LIT Camp- 8
 3. OUR Camp- 10
- c. Spring/Summer Guide mailed to homes in mid-February
 - i. New Programs- Vt Lake Monster Tickets, Family Ping Pong, Senior Strength, Fencing, Tai Chi, Laughter Lifelines, Sees Sarning, Pickleball Scrimmage, ParKids, Indoor Soccer, Young Debaters Academy, Kids to Parks Day
- d. REC Zone Programs
 - i. New Programs- Line Dancing
- e. February Revenue- \$125,309, the largest month

B. Facilities

- a. The R.E.C. Zone- Recreate, Explore, Create
 - i. The projector would not work in the facility
- b. Village Community Park
 - i. Ice Rink is closed for the season
 - ii. The roof of the 3rd base dugout on the Majors field has been replaced
- c. Brennan Community Park
 - i. Fields and amenities are closed for the winter
- d. Rossignol Community Park
 - i. Fields and amenities are closed for the winter
- e. Allen Brook Community Park
 - i. Fields and amenities are closed for the winter
- f. Community Gardens
 - i. Gardens are closed for the season
 - ii. A letter was mailed to last year's gardeners to see who is returning
 - iii. April 1- registration for available plots will begin

C. Administration

- i. VOREC Grant:
 1. Did not receive the grant- 21 million in requests, 6 million awarded.
- ii. Recreation & Parks Master Plan
 1. Hope to be able to still do this plan to assist with the Rec Impact Fee Study that sunsets in 2025, the Town Master Plan, which needs to be done every 5-10 years, The build-out of Allen Brook Community Park, and the Rec. Center.
 2. The plan would help to put a price on the Rec. Impact Fee that is paid to the Town for new development.
- iii. Donation
 1. Possible donation from the Rotary Club
 2. Project- Tot Playground