

Plaistow Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 6:30pm

Location: Plaistow Town Hall Annex, Recreation Office, 14 Elm Street, Plaistow, NH

Call to order at 6:30pm

Attendance: Kerry Patles (President), Patrick Buckley (Vice President), Susan Sherman (Secretary), Jennifer Gusler (Recreation Director), William Coye (Board of Selectman Liaison), Tina Dufresne, Leah MacKean, Kristin Savage (arrival 6:47pm as discussed), John Sherman (Alternate), Lucinda Ward (Guest, 2nd meeting)

Excused: Jennifer Bird

Susan Sherman verbally resigns as Secretary; Leah to take meeting notes

Meeting Agenda Commences:

1. New Member Welcome and Oath
Jennifer Bird official; needs to do oath; Lucinda Ward, 2nd meeting as guest; Cori Forms for Current Members (yearly) - Forms available and filled out by members; Kristin to verify as Notary
2. Approve January 2022 Minutes
Few corrections to spelling/names; Approved with corrections (1st Kerry/2nd John) 5-0-1
3. Director's Report
Trails - 80% clearing done; Lew Shelley from Snow Hawk, LLC primary go-to; Mark West, Wetlands Scientist involved for wetlands protection; Awaiting approval, after contact, to use the land at the end of Carl's Way as access point to trails for heavy equipment (stone and gravel placement for natural crossing over wet section of trail); Bill Gegas from state looking for updates on progress; updated expense sheet including "in-kind" donations, time and money spent during grant process included.
Seniors - Lower attendance due to weather; Continue to offer Coffee Talk and other activities; Coordinating with Vic Geary to do projects/crafts on last Monday of month
Summer Rec - Need staff, ages 16+; high school counselors helping with applicants; Only 4 current applicants (returning staff); need 15 counselors; Increased pay from \$9/hour to \$12/hour; Multiple inquiries re: sign-ups; Coordinating field trips for this year
Summer Concerts - 8 of 10 confirmed; Few open spots are in middle of summer
Baseball/Softball - Registration closes Feb 15th; Coaches/Volunteers require Cori checks and fingerprinting; can stop by PPD any time to obtain fingerprinting; must be completed by March 1st; Baseball clinics underway 1/30-3/20; Softball clinics 2/13-4/10; Baseball opening day slated for May 7th; 94 currently enrolled; Softball – low numbers currently; expecting numbers to increase with U12 given summer league requirements
Plaistow Recreation Events - Ladies Night Out – 10 in attendance; Winter Snowman Craft at Library – 11 children in attendance
Friend of Recreation - Monthly meetings; Discussing fundraising efforts to add dug outs and back stops to the new softball field so the field can be used and rented; Tentative car show date of August 12th
Elder Affairs - Valentine's Day movie at the library 2/11; November 12th- plan for craft fair; working on invitations/applications with a goal of having them out/done by March 1st; Next meeting 2/15
Old Home Day - Moved to be a chartered committee under Recreation; First meeting 1/23; Next meeting 2/20/2022; Tentative date for OHD is June 18th; Bylaws submitted by Haley Bush to BOS on 1/24; need to be reviewed by Rec Comm as it will be Recreation to ensure bylaws are appropriate and maintain limitations for Recreation Director (not part of current job description); Rec Director to "oversee" as a check-in only; Oaths for members to be done
Traditional Easter Egg Hunt at the Town Hall Green 4/16; planning underway!
Recreation Office Rentals – reviewed

PARC facility Reservations - reviewed

Important Dates:

- 4/4 Parks officially open
- 4/15 Toddler Easter Egg Hunt
- 4/16 Easter Egg Hunt
- 4/23 Plaistow Pride Day
- 5/14 Town Wide Yard Sale
- 6/10 Outdoor Movie at the Library
- 6/18 Old Home Day
- 7/15 Outdoor Movie at the Library
- 8/19 Outdoor Movie at the Library

Upcoming Events (must register)

February Vacation Week - Rock Climbing at Metro Rock in Newburyport 3/1; Ice Skating at The Ice Rink 3/3

Paint Your Pet - 3/22 6pm at Vic Geary; Registration per link (on website)

2022 Budget/Deliberative - Low turnout at Deliberative Session; No change to warrant article wording; Yard signs created/to be placed (funded by donations from Recreation Commission members); Create talking points and highlights to keep information uniform; Voting in March

4. Friends of Recreation - Letter for fundraising; Working to involve town businesses and people in fundraising; Working on further fundraising ideas (see Director's Report, as well); Fundraising ideas (Document shredding, Electronics recycling)
5. Alternates Needed - Anyone wishing to attend a meeting is welcome. Please message Recreation Director for information; Meetings held 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm at Town Annex Recreation Office; All are welcome!
6. Open/New Business - John discussed update and review of strategic plan. Will compare old with one revised in September of 2021; 4/9 10-year Anniversary for Run of the Savages!; 2/10 School Deliberative Session

Next Meeting Wednesday March 9, 2022 6:30pm

- Will update subproject requirement
- Work on Strategic Plan
- Spring events
- Pat Buckley will be away (excused)

Meeting dismissed 8pm