



# TOWN OF THOMPSON

## Recreation Commission

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### Recreation Commission Special Meeting Minutes June 29, 2022 6:30pm via Zoom

#### View the Zoom Recording

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/AjuQr63Rj0JPgOK925iuYb8QHL0zFxyEwBdCKbiCFYckJVrSsiGdGp7pSKlj\\_aX-wm\\_PbdTXc7iij3](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/AjuQr63Rj0JPgOK925iuYb8QHL0zFxyEwBdCKbiCFYckJVrSsiGdGp7pSKlj_aX-wm_PbdTXc7iij3)

Passcode: #PUXM=0B

1. Call to order/Record -The meeting was called to order by B. Lievense (Recreation Director) at 6:31pm.
2. Roll Call -Brian Lievense (Recreation Director), Renee Waldron (Chair), Cynthia Antos, Dave Clark, Robbie L'Heureux, Donna Poitras, Heather Gauthier (Recording Secretary)  
Absent: Thomas Jourdan, Wayne Barber
3. Minutes Review
  1. February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes were reviewed. Corrections noted: under Roll Call - Diane Keefe is listed as absent and she has resigned from the commission, under Director's Report/C. Adult Program/3<sup>rd</sup> bullet Spring Clean Up - Spring Clean is in April (not March), and under Directors Report/D. Senior Programs/5<sup>th</sup> bullet Senior Soiree - "senior sign along" should be "senior sing along"; New Business 2<sup>nd</sup> line - application should be "applications"; new Business 3<sup>rd</sup> line - "NECCON" should be spelt "NECONN". **\*\*C. Antos made a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections previously listed; seconded by R. Waldron. Motion passed 4-0-1.**
  2. March 10<sup>th</sup> special meeting minutes were reviewed. **\*\*C. Antos made motion to accept the minutes; seconded by R. Waldron. Motion passed 4-0-1.**
4. Financial Reports (given by Director B. Lievense)
  - A. General Fund Budget Report - 92% of the budget was used with 2 weeks left to the fiscal year.
  - B. Fund Balance - Balance is \$49,072; with \$3,000 encumbered for the work at the park gazebo and \$5,000 allocated to resurfacing the basketball/pickleball court. (R. Waldron) The general fund balance is the money from the town budget. The revolving account is used for fee-based programs. The fund balance is tied to the revolving account with two funding streams into the account; one is the end of the year balance from the general fund that is moved into the fund balance and the second is restrictive donations.
  - C. Miscellaneous Revolving Account Report - Current balance about \$82,000 (unofficial). There has been a lot of revenue from Summer Camp registrations. We expect about \$40,000 will be paid out for summer camp employee salaries.  
(C. Antos) asked about the advertisement in the shoppers guide for an assistant director position.  
(B. Lievense) This is a new full-time position for the recreation department. The role of the aid to recreation director is being combined with program supervisor role. The current part-time position will be wrapped into the new position.
5. New Business
  - A. Status Update on Riverside Park Basketball/Pickleball Court Resurfacing  
The AARP grant was denied, the project will still move forward. The recreation department has already allocated \$5,000. EDC has voted to provide \$10,000 and \$15,000 was requested from ARPA funds set aside for this project. Recreation is looking to allocate additional money. Step one is to have the asphalt company to come in and remove tree roots, patch the court, and resurface the court with 1 3/4" thick coat of asphalt. Step two sealcoating the court from the specialty sport sealcoating company 6 months after the resurfacing. Quote received: Superior Paving \$9,700 - Step one (removing roots, patching, resurfacing); Mike's Sealcoating \$6,000 - Step two (sealcoat and paint court); Premier Sealcoating \$15,000 (sealcoat and paint court). To get the court into a playable condition is \$16-25,000. The surrounding fencing for the court is estimated at \$6,700. New equipment is estimated to be \$3-5,000. The total project is \$30-35,000. **\*\*R. Waldron made**

**motion to spend up to an additional \$5,000 out of the fund balance for this project; seconded by R. L'Heureux. Motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.**

(D. Clark) Why can't we use town resources for removal of the tree roots? (R. Waldron) the town highway department has a staffing shortage, and it has historically been difficult to get them to do projects for recreation department.

(R. L'Heureux) The quotes for sealcoating have a big gap, do we know why? (B. Lievensen) We may be looking for a third quote. Premier sealcoating specializes in court painting. If we go with a lower quote, we might consider getting references. I wanted to provide you with a low and high quote.

**B. Potential Partnership with American Foodie Festivals (Food truck Event)**

American foodie festival is a food truck provider. They reached out to B. Lievensen about an open date to have a festival on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The town would be required to provide porta potties and trash pickup. American foodies festival provides the vendors, band, kids events. They would provide an insurance certificate listing the town as an additional insured. Tyra Penn-Gesek, town planner, asked about admission which would be free to attendees. The town can sell vendor booths to offset any incurred costs. (R. Waldron) Previously when we worked with outside vendors, we had an agreement drawn up by our town attorney, which should be reviewed. (R. L'Heureux) Are we responsible for any sell point that is not hit? (B. Lievensen) There is no sell point, and they were clear that the only responsibility of the town was to provide porta-potties and trash pickup. **\*\*Motion was made to host the festival in September pending insurance compliance and review by the town counsel by D. Poitras; seconded by C. Antos. Motion passed unanimously 5-0-0.**

**6. Director's Report (given by B. Lievensen)**

**A. Purely Recreation** – Program has closed with an average of 25 afternoon and 20 morning participants. There is interest by incoming kindergarteners.

**B. Special Events**

- **Maker Fair.** Held on the rain date of May 14<sup>th</sup>. There were 87 registered vendors, with 15 no shows on the day of the event. That weekend was also the Brimfield fair and Killingly which may have contributed to the low attendance. The plan for next year is to have the event the week before mother's day with the rain date the Saturday of mother's day weekend.
- **Easter Egg Hunt.** Very well attended and fun event.
- **Summer Concerts.** First one past Saturday. Band was Jim Perry and the Ed Sullivans. The event was attended by about 100 people. This was a combined event with the TBA Business Expo.
- **Town-Wide Yard Sale.** Coming up July 30<sup>th</sup>. There are about 17 registrations. (R. Waldron) Historically there have been 50-70 spots on the map.

**C. Adult Program**

- **Yoga.** Saturday in-person on Wednesday is attended well. The virtual program will be on hold until the fall.
- **Tai Chi.** Starting soon at the Library on Thursday. There are 13 registrations so far for this program.
- **Litter League/Spring Clean Up.** The Spring Clean-up was in April. Pilot program for Litter League will be started in September and run through November. This is competitive trash pickup, and we have (4) local business sponsors. We received a \$500 grant for start up costs.

**D. Senior Programs**

- **Senior Discussion/Lecture.** Continuing monthly with free discussions. Generally, well attended by 20 seniors. Dave King is doing a talk on his son who passed in the station night club fire.
- **Senior Craft.** Held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. There are about 8-12 crafters.
- **Senior Special Lunch.** Will be held on July 20<sup>th</sup> with a senior BBQ.

**E. Youth Programs**

- **Adventure Camp.** Started this week, there are about 50 registrations with a peak in July. The camp has a weekly field trip to Quaddick State Park on Thursday's. Thompson recreation is supplying the lifeguard. (C. Antos) Quaddick lake is currently closed due to water quality test results.
- **EPIC Soccer Camp.** One clinic will be this week which has 28 registrations. The second clinic will be the first week in August has 20 registrations.
- **Basketball Camp.** Will be the fourth of July week with 70 registrations.
- **Explore the Trail Camp.** Fourth of July weekend was the Airline Trail Camp. This was expanded to 4 weeks from the pilot program last year. This program is a partnership with Thompson recreation, The Last Green Valley and TEEG.

7. Old Business.

- A. Playgrounds. (C. Antos) Have the playgrounds been inspected? (B. Lievence) We have to get those scheduled.
- B. Youth Programs. (R. Waldron) Previously we have done other events that are not sports related. (B. Lievence) We did some Lego and Stem camps during the school year that were well attended.
- C. Bus Trips. (R. Waldron) Bus Trips have been doing well. (B. Lievence) They have done well. We did two so far to Newport and Portland Maine, which sold out early. We have trips coming up to Lake Winnepesaukee, Salem Massachusetts, Foliage Turkey Train in Maine, New York City, and Newport Yuletide trip.
- D. Increase Programming. The past 6 months have shown a return to programming.

8. Other comments from the commission.

- C. Antos. Welcome Dave Clark

9. Correspondence. No Correspondence.

10. Citizen's Comments. No citizen present.

11. Announcements.

- FOIA workshop is July 18<sup>th</sup> by zoom. This will be presented by Tom Hennrick.

12. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 17, 2022 @ 6:30 PM by zoom.

**13. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted 7/5/2022

Heather Gauthier

Recording Secretary

*These minutes have not yet been approved by the Recreation Commission. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.*