

1 Recreation Commission Meeting

2 Stowe Arena- Wednesday, March 1, 2017

3 The regular meeting of the Stowe Recreation Commission was held Wednesday, March 1, 2017 in the  
4 meeting room at the arena starting at 5:00pm.

5 Members present: Lynn Altadonna, Brett Loomis, Terrie Wehse, Pascale Savard.

6 Absent: Walt Levering Also Present: Matt Frazee, Recreation Director and Kelli Walters, Interim Program  
7 Director.

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9 Brett moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Lynn with all in favor.

10 **Minutes of January 4, 2017** were approved with an adjustment to Line 18- "elementary area" was  
11 agreed to change to "David Gale Recreation Center". Brett motioned to approve minutes, seconded by  
12 Lynn with all in favor.

13 **Discussion: Recreation Capital Priorities-** Matt explained that, if approved, the capital priorities goes to  
14 the select board on March 13<sup>th</sup> for review. Terrie motioned to pull capital priorities out of consent items  
15 and review. Commission specifically reviewed the tennis courts and fields.

16 **Tennis Courts-**Terrie asked if the tennis courts should be incorporated into the Rec Center plan. It is  
17 stated in the capital priorities document that the allowance on the plot is 5,000 sq ft. Terrie recalled a  
18 larger number for that allowance. Matt will confirm allowance on existing foot print. The commission  
19 discussed the option of sealing the tennis courts for the time being, it was decided sealing the tennis  
20 courts is not a viable option due to significant cost of repair. Lynn suggested the option of contacting the  
21 Education Board and proposing the elementary school buy the tennis courts to use capital expense  
22 grants.

23 **Fields-** Commission discussed the bottom line of needing more field space. The commission feels the  
24 community needs a background on use and it should be explained why the town needs more field  
25 space. Those reasons being we are at capacity for events, the fields are being over-used, and the conflict  
26 of special events and sports. The commission agreed the department needs to raise awareness of all of  
27 these challenges. We also need to include a map of all fields with priorities proposal.

28 It was agreed the commission needs to finish the capital priorities tonight. The Capital priorities were  
29 approved with the following amendments:

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- 31 • Priority numbers in introductory paragraph of proposal should match the order of the list  
that follows.
  - 32 • Accurate square footage allowance for David Gale Recreation Center.
  - 33 • Added final sentence to the introductory paragraph: "This list is the projected requirements  
34 for the Recreation Department"

35 The commission voted all in favor of the Capital Priorities.

36 **Annual Work Plan-** Matt introduced example of Annual Work Plan. Matt suggested compiling a  
37 Directors Report in order to have a clear understanding of the commissions starting point for an annual

38 work plan. It was agreed the commission would wait to assemble an annual work plan due to new  
39 members joining the commission.

40 **Review of Summer Camp-** Matt and Kelli reviewed the plan for the 2017 summer camp. Matt discussed  
41 the recent trends of summer camp over previous years, factors for declining numbers, and this years'  
42 focus on offering a variety of experiences. Kelli reviewed the structure of the summer camp activities,  
43 including the TREC activities and the use of local Vermont State Parks to get the kids out into Vermont's  
44 natural surroundings. Transportation costs were also reviewed. Kelli explained that the Fly Rod Shop will  
45 be utilizing their van for programs with the Fly Rod Shop, this is estimated to save the department \$859  
46 in transportation costs for the Fishing and Survival Clubs. Kelli provided an overview of new programs  
47 the camp is adding to entice participant numbers and off-set the camp's net loss. This included four new  
48 add-on specialty programs; Young Rembrandts, Horseback Riding, Tennis, and Gardening Clubs.

49 The commission discussed the marketing strategy for programs. The main marketing tool being the  
50 brochure, Matt also stated the Stowe Area Association was helping the department send the brochure  
51 through direct mailing to residents and non-residents. Brett asked about the status of online  
52 registrations with the new website. Matt stated that the department was still working on it but it should  
53 be up and running by next fall.

54 Commission members all approved 2017 summer camp plan.

55 **Arena Revenues-** Commission discussed arena marketing. Matt stated the Stowe Area Association has  
56 been assisting with marketing needs at no cost to the department. The Commission reviewed revenues  
57 of ice sales YTD. Matt will send the commission members the FY16 Budget & Actual, FY17 Budget & YTD  
58 Actual, and FY18 Proposed budget to review net losses and revenue. The commission discussed where  
59 the deficits are and where we can fill in. It was also stated the commission needed to inform community  
60 members of the \$45,000 of uncompensated ice time for school teams when discussing the Arena's net  
61 loss.

62 There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:40pm

63 Respectfully submitted,

64 Kelli S. Walters

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