

1 Stowe Recreation Commission Meeting  
2 Wednesday, August 2, 2017- Ice Arena Meeting Room  
3

DRAFT

4 The regular meeting of the recreation Commission was held Wednesday, August 2, 2017 in the Meeting  
5 Room at the arena starting at 5:00 P.M.

6 Members present: Brett Loomis, Terrie Wehse, Father Rick, Mike Loughran and Lynn Altadonna.

7 Absent: Walt Levering and Adam Rice. Also present: Matt Frazee, Director and Tony Whitaker, Rink  
8 Manager. .

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10 5:00 P.M. Mr. Loomis called the meeting to order. Lynn moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Mike  
11 with all in favor.

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13 **Minutes of July 12, 2017:** Mike moved to approve as written, seconded by Terrie with all in favor. Walt  
14 and Adam absent.

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16 **Mayo Field Task Force Report:** Mike reported that will be drafting a letter which will brought before the  
17 Commission prior to going to the Selectboard. Trying to show an increase in prime ag land which is  
18 required by the Land Trust and demonstrate to the Selectboard the need, the cost and desirability. He  
19 said Stowe Land Trust needs to be convinced there is a net gain for conservation and ag land. Mike  
20 reiterated that they have one shot and need to get it right. Matt said there was a meeting with himself,  
21 Tom Jackman and Paul Percy who made his feelings very clear he is not in favor. Lynn said it needs to be  
22 made clear the need for more fields for the kids and their sports. Matt said the Commission needs to  
23 show the Selectboard there is a need, a desire , the costs and the Stowe Land Trust will need to  
24 determine the swap will result in a net gain for ag land and conservation. Those are the two things that  
25 have to be proven. If this doesn't happen, it doesn't matter who or who doesn't support this, stated  
26 Matt.

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28 **Polo Field Parking Area: Discussion re:** the two options to fill in the area. Matt said that the  
29 Conservation Commission recommends doing option B as there is no process to go through and can be  
30 done by using town labor and materials. Brett felt option A should be used as he felt it would not solve  
31 the problem using B and said it should be done correctly the first time and make a parking lot. After  
32 discussion and realizing this could be a band aid, Lynn moved to proceed with Option B which is: fill in  
33 low areas with gravel, cover with a layer of top soil and seed. Rick seconded the motion with all in favor  
34 except Brett who voted no.

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36 **Arena Report:** Matt gave an overview of the report which when finalized will go to the Selectboard  
37 providing documentation where there is growth etc and possible ways of improving the usage. Matt said  
38 the facility is an asset to the town and is serving the people and looking to go forward in a positive  
39 direction, stated Matt. Broken down into financial statements, tournaments, public skating etc.  
40 Discussion took place. Matt highlighted some of the larger financials- with steps that are being taken to  
41 reduce the expenses and increase the income. Not a consistent demand for use in the summer; adjust  
42 staffing so that two men (1) are going to Bruce's department certain months (changing the split to 55%  
43 arena / 45% parks from the previously budgeted 75%/25% split); not open on the weekends when there  
44 are not reservations from 5/1 thru 9/30;

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2 Discussion continued and Matt compared to other rinks in the area. Tony gave members who are geared  
3 to—youth hockey is key have had regional hockey camps and will continue to work with NAHA and  
4 others and zero in on the local kids.

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6 Terrie announced she will be resigning from the Commission to work with the town as a temporary  
7 contracted service with focus on marketing, tournaments, events, and ad sales.

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9 Rick suggested branching out looking into speed skating which he felt there could be a calling for if there  
10 a sponsor; there are several clubs in the surrounding areas who are used to travelling so a possibility and  
11 felt there would be substantial interest and energy on both; Tony said he possibly could take a block of  
12 time on Fridays. Matt stated December - February has seen dramatic impact since the Mt Company and  
13 TN Resort rinks have come into play; after continuing discussion Matt said the goal is to cut the deficit  
14 by 10-15% this year with the main goal being to remain an asset to the community.

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16 **Ice Rental Rates:** Matt put a grid on the screen for members to compare and after discussion Brett  
17 moved to recommend to the Selectboard that the following rates be put in place for the 2019 budget;

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19 Prime time \$205 per hour

20 Non-prime time go to \$150 per

21 Keep Youth Hockey the same at \$185 per and adjust the summer non-prime time May thru August 31<sup>st</sup>  
22 by starting at 8:00 PM.

23 Rick seconded the motion with Terrie, Brett, Mike, Rick and Brett voting in favor. Walt and Adam not  
24 present. i

25 Rick commented that the goal has to be to support the youth.

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27 There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.>

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29 Respectfully submitted,

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31 Barbara s. Allaire