

Stowe Recreation Commission Meeting DRAFT
Wednesday, January 3, 2018

The regular meeting of the Recreation Commission was held Wednesday, January 3, 2018 in the Arena starting at 5:00 P.M.

Members present: Lynn Altadonna, Walt Levering, Brett Loomis, Mike Loughran and Adam Rice. Also present: Matt Frazee, Director and Leo Clark, in the audience.

The Commission is still minus two members.

Mike moved to **call to the meeting order** and Brett asked to amend to discuss the task force advisory article for Town Meeting. Walt seconded the motion the all in favor.

Minutes of December 6, 2018: Lynn moved to approve as written, seconded by Adams with all in favor.

Advisory Article: Brett explained to members that the Commission is trying to get the town to decide if additional fields are needed. It appears it is not the appropriate time or way to proceed and go to taxpayers for an additional \$40,000 (as was discussed earlier) for that purpose. There was discussion with Adam reiterating that the agricultural fields need to be protected. Leo Clark had helped draft versions, either A or B to be placed on the Annual Meeting Warning for March 2018. After discussion, Lyn moved to adopt A which is the following: "Shall the voters advise the Selectboard, along with the Recreation Commission, to explore locations for development of additional athletic fields." Adam second eth emotion with Walt, Lynn, Adam, Brett and Mike voting in favor.

Program Cancellation Procedure: Matt presented procedures for program cancellations and closings for the following circumstances: 1. When VT closes non-essential services – Town manager closes non-essential services and facilities. 2. When Stowe Schools close due to inclement weather – all Recreation programs are cancelled but facilities open and staff working. 3. The school district cancels extracurricular activities – any recreation program which requires use of school facilities are cancelled, recreation programs including After School Programs will not be cancelled unless there is a concern for public/staff safety, offices and the arena will remain open. Matt explained it would be very difficult to cancel afterschool programs as it would create a challenge for parents who were planning on the program and make it difficult to make arrangements for picking up their children.

Emily Boek, Program Director at the Rec Department: Emily described to members the 2018 spring and summer programs as well as new ones which may take place. She is looking into to new clubs such as legos, mountain biking, bowling, soccer, archery, basketball, etc. There are several new ones proposed for adults such as: archery, intro to fly fishing, fencing, birding, etc.; several family performances such as : VINS Raptor Encounter, Steve Corning, Marko the Magician and others.

Saturday, January 13th at the Elementary School there will be different activities such as carnival games, bouncy house, face painting etc and Emily was looking for volunteers.

Members thanked Emily for coming and describing the activities, both present and being proposed.

1 **P & R Financial Assistance Program:** Matt explained the financial assistance program saying scholarships
2 are awarded based on family income and outside assistance using a percentage of the payment scale.
3 The year 2017 \$5443 was awarded. The Rec department seeks donations through program registration,
4 asking at the time of registration, conducting 50-50 raffles at events, an event called Miles for Smiles
5 which is co-sponsored by the Stowe PTO for which 70% of the proceeds benefit the FAP and 30% the
6 PTO. A private donation of \$2500 in FY16 and donation of \$1,000 from Rotary were received. The
7 Afterschool Program is \$2400 per child per year and the Summer Camp is \$800 per child per year. Staff
8 has researched other municipal recreation departments and found that most have similar policies, but
9 they place limit per individual per year. The average limit found was around \$200 per individual per
10 year. Matt said one possibility would be to use the Guidelines of the VT Dept of Education Free Milk
11 Program Eligibility Guidelines and qualify individuals for either free or discounted at 50% price
12 (consistent with Town employee discount) and place an annual limit of \$500. Members agreed to the
13 \$500 limit and Matt will draft an amendment to the policy for the Commission's approval and then send
14 on to the Selectboard.

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16 Walt moved to go into executive session to discuss Matt's performance for the year. Mike seconded the
17 motion with all in favor.

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19 The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

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21 Respectfully submitted,

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24 Barbara S. Allaire