

1 Recreation Commission Arena Task Force Meeting

2 Wednesday, December 4, 2019 - Stowe Arena

DRAFT

3 The regular Recreation Commission meeting was held Wednesday, December 4, 2019 in the meeting
4 room at the arena starting at 5:11 P.M.

5 Members present: Lynn Altadonna, Ben Novogroski, Brett Loomis, Dave Rogers, Matt Frazee. Also in the
6 audience was Hope Sullivan. Absent: Adam Rice, Mike Loughran, Candace Elmquist.

7 **5:11pm called to order. Adenda Approved.**

8 **Changes to minutes:** Adam and Ben we not present on 11/6. Lynn made a few grammar edits. Minutes
9 approved.

10
11 Ice Dance Residency

12 Hope Sullivan informed that Friends of Jackson agreed to sponsor the residency for \$1000.00 but they
13 still needed another \$945.00 in sponsorship or fee exemption to cover the cost of the ice rental fees.
14 She mentioned that she and Matt had discussed offsetting the \$945 with advertising funds as the event
15 would provide ample marketing and exposure for Stowe Arena. She explained that they plan to market
16 the residency and performance throughout Vermont and also in the Boston and Montreal metro areas.
17 They also send out marketing to their list which consists of over 10,000 people and organizations. She
18 also explained that during the residency, they will be brining in Stowe Elementary School and other local
19 schools for demonstrations and performances. The will be offering clinics and workshops to local and
20 regional kids and adults and will be offering a Master’s class for advanced figure skaters. They intend to
21 attract high level skaters from Skating Clubs; Champlain Valley, Woodstock, Dartmouth, Waterbury,
22 Barre, and others in Vermont, NY, Canada and NH. She indicated that they will include recognition to
23 the Stowe Arena for support of the residency and indicated that they could include the logo and
24 website, including a live link on all online media. The RC expressed overall support for the event and
25 suggested further exploration for future to incorporate a more formal performance to take place at
26 Stowe Arena. Lynn also suggested that they should consider Stowe Arena for summer programming
27 also. The RC offered support and felt it was worthy investment of advertising funds.

28
29 Rec Path Speed Limit

30 Matt informed that the Town lawyer provided documentation which determines that e-bikes are
31 permitted anywhere that bicycles are permitted per Vermont State law. The Recreation Commission
32 was thus asked to consider whether or not they felt there should be a consideration of a speed limit on
33 the Rec Path. Matt shared information that Colchester Causeway, Lamoille Rail Trail, and Missiquoi
34 Valley Rail Trail do not currently have speed limits for bicycles. He also informed that Burlington
35 recently approved speed limits of 10mph for the waterfront and 15mph for remaining sections of their
36 Greenway path. They did however indicate that they do not have a method to monitor speeds and do
37 not feel that signage for speed is a priority at this time. Cindy White, Burlington Recreation, Parks and
38 Waterfront Director suggested that feedback they received was that the only issues they have

1 experienced with regards to speed on their path has been with “fitness riders” and indicated that e-
2 bikes have not been an observed issue. Matt reported feedback from Scott Brinkman, Stowe EMS Chief
3 where he indicated that “I don’t recall speed being the main factor in the bulk of emergencies” and also
4 expressed uncertainty of how a speed limit would be monitored or enforced. He also pointed out that
5 most bikes do not have speedometers, so how would they know what speed they were going. The
6 Recreation felt that posting a speed limit may increase the Town’s exposure if there was not a realistic
7 method for monitoring and enforcing. They also expressed that they had not generally experienced or
8 observed speed of e-bikes or normal bikes as a pressing issue on the Rec Path. Lynn suggested that the
9 Rec Commission make no recommendation at this time in regards to a speed limit or additional signage
10 on the Rec Path and continue to observe to see if speed becomes an issue in the future.

11

12 Other business

13 Matt presented a list of current and upcoming programs and events and expressed a need for
14 volunteers in January for the Kids Carnival Chaos event. Matt let RC know that the first Wednesday in
15 January was a holiday and he will be attending a work conference on the following Wednesday and
16 asked if everyone wanted to meet on a different day in January or wait until February. Lynn asked if
17 there was anything timely scheduled for January and Matt indicated that at this time there was nothing
18 anticipated to discuss that couldn’t wait until February. The group decided to cancel the January
19 meeting. Matt updated RC that he has had reached out to Graham Mink, Jesse Driscoll, Kelly Hickey,
20 Amanda Pelkey, and Brady Leisenring in regards to exploring interest in a promotor for the Arena. Brady
21 is interested in discussing further and Matt has reached back out to him to attempt to set a time to
22 meet. Matt encouraged everyone to pass along contact information of anyone who may be interested
23 and Ben and Brett indicated they would do so.

24

25 Adjourned at 627pm

26 Respectfully submitted,

27

28 Matt Frazee