

Recreation Commission Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 2, 2022
DRAFT

- 2 The regular Recreation Commission meeting was held Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at the Stowe Arena Community Room starting at 5:04 P.M.
- 3 Members present: Lynn Altadonna, Dave Rogers, Ed Sthal, Adam Rice, Ryan Thibault, Brett Loomis, Matt Frazee. Absent: Art Shinnars. Audience: Alison Link
- 4 **5:01pm called to order. Agenda Approved. AR/RT**
- 5 **No minutes from December due to no quorum at meeting**
- 6 **Park Signage**
- 7 Matt introduced Alison Link from Heathy Lamoille Valley and she discussed their mission which promotes healthy living and limiting exposure to you of substances. Alison handed out the toolkit for “preventing youth substance misuse.” Discussed initiatives related to municipalities and youth recreation. Working with municipalities can focus on the Policies and System level of intervention. There are currently no ordinance restrictions of for legal substances (alcohol, tobacco, vaping, cannabis, etc.) in our town parks including Memorial Park. What is the vision of the Recreation Commission for the Rec department in terms of substance prevention? Some communities have made policy to make public parks and places substance/tobacco free.
- 8 Dave asked if they get involved in in-school education. Alison said they have a youth coordinator who does work with the schools on education and resources. Lynn asked what the process would be to restrict substance use in town parks. Matt said the selectboard would have to approve an amendment to the ordinance. Ed asked how would it be enforced. Alison said usually fines enforced by law enforcement but also users help spread word. Cannabis is not allowed to use in public. Ryan asked about signage that encourages behaviors for communities that want to send a message without going to the level of changing policy. Alison said some communities have added signs and messaging which promote health without restricting or requiring by policy.
- 9 Lynn suggested that we continue to discuss and evaluate. Dave said he thought that even signage suggesting behaviors would be helpful. RC takes no action at this time.
- 10 **Youth Rec Comm Representative**
- 11 Matt said that he spoke with Sarah Hailey who’s is on Stowe QYD committee regarding youth participation on municipal boards. She indicated that there may be interest from Stowe HS students to participate on the Recreation Commission. Matt said that any age can apply to be appointed to the RC but the board could also choose to amend the Rules of the RC to specifically create one or more spots for HS student members. Ed asked would they be voting? Matt explained they could either be voting members or ex-officio. Ryan suggested ex-officio members and others agreed. Lynn said it would be great to have their perspective.
- 12 Matt will be talking more with Sarah and the qyd committee regarding their level of interest and will revisit with the board once more is known.

13 No other business.

6:34p Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Frazee