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PRESENT: L. Smith, Chairman; A. Brubaker, Vice Chairman; J. Fermery, L. Ruest,
R. Robinson, W. Barker

Not Present: G. Koch, R. Dean

Also present was Lyn Stan, Vice Chair of Parks and Recreation Commission and Grant Winnes, Hampton Falls First Baptist Church

Paul Fitzgerald was present as member of the public at the request of Parks and Recreation Commission Member Pam Fitzgerald.

SKATING RINK:

This meeting was held at the request of the Parks and Recreation Commission for input with regard to a request to establish a winter ice skating rink.

Grant Winnes, Hampton Falls First Baptist Church, submitted a proposal updated through November 20, 2017 and explained that the proposal is an outreach project initiated by the Church. The materials for the ice rink (tarp and side boards) would be a donation to the Town and not owned by the Church.

The initial proposal is to locate the skating rink on the Town Common due to the proximity to G. Winnes' home and the availability of electricity and water. The committee reviewed the details outlined in the proposal with regard to size (40' x 56'), rails, lighting and maintenance needs (shovel and broom, bucket and sump pump).

Concerns expressed included damages to the lawn, irrigation system, parking, spiked brackets and commitments with regard to maintenance needs. It was acknowledged that a bond or assurance of repair with sod would be in order.

Question was raised as to whether Whittier Pond has been considered. P. Fitzgerald spoke to this area's historical use as a skating and hockey pond where there is no liability on the municipality and no restrictions. Matters of plowed access and thickness of ice were identified as questions.

Suggestion was made to locate the skating rink at Gov. Weare Park. Initial discussion related to locating the skating rink in the parking lot area; concern was raised with the pitch, lack of electricity and water access and the need for a snow blower to clear the ice.

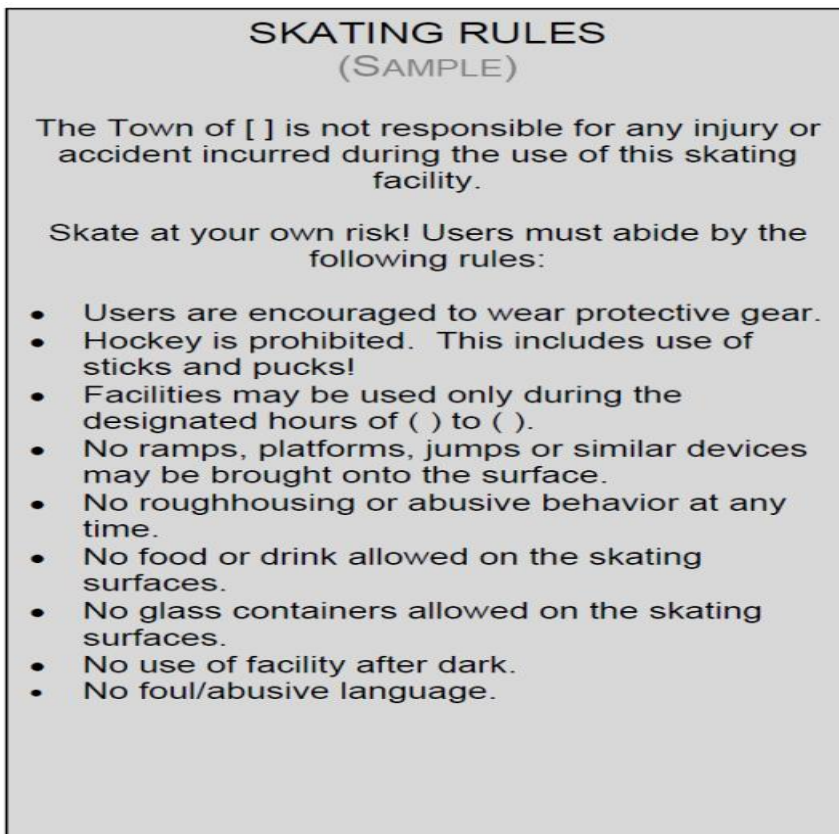
It was determined that Gov. Weare Park would be best for a trial run given the many concerns relating to the Town Common. It was noted, however, that the municipality does not plow the parking area at Gov. Weare Park as part of its Agreement or annual budget. Parking on Route 88 is also a concern given winter parking bans.

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Discussion turned to using the grassy area, separate from the playing fields areas, of Gov. Weare Park to locate the skating rink; this would allow for the parking area to be used if plowed by volunteers.

A review of information received from the Town's municipal insurance carrier took place. Discussion related to risks and management of a volunteer managed skating rink. This includes, in part, use of mechanical equipment by a skilled individual and locking a snow blower so that it is only available to the responsible volunteer assigned to this task.

Additionally, a sign of rules is in order (see sample provided by insurance company below). To this list, "No Fires" will be added. Seven days a week from dawn to dusk was agreed upon as designated times of use.



Grant Winnes agreed to the set-up and tear down of the proposed skating rink for three years with the materials being stored in a shed located on Church property. G. Winnes will be the contact person overseeing volunteers. All volunteers will be required to sign and agree to terms outlined in a Volunteer Statement form to be provided by the Town of Hampton Falls.

The Town Improvement Committee, in its advisory role, concurred with the location of the skating rink at Gov. Weare Park, at the grassy area to the left of the baseball field.

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In closing, G. Winnes agreed to prepare a written plan and list of needs; D. Robinson will contact Epping Well and Pump with regard to availability of water for this purpose.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meets next on December 18 and the Board of Selectmen meets December 20. G. Winnes will obtain a Selectmen's Permit Application and obtain input and signatures from Department Heads for consideration of both groups.

The required signage will be paid through the Parks and Recreation Commission budget and volunteers will be sought for plowing the parking lot at Gov. Weare Park.

Words of thanks were extended to all in this regard.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

MOTION: A. BRUBAKER

SECOND: W. BARKER

UNANIMOUS