

**\*\*Please Note: Items to be placed on the Meeting Agenda must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the preceding Friday\*\***

# MOULTONBOROUGH RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## ADVISORY BOARD

### ***Mission Statement***

The mission of the Advisory Board to the Moultonborough Recreation Department is to provide the public a standard of excellence in programs and services in a cooperative spirit that encourages participation in recreation, sport and leisure activities, while carefully promoting and utilizing recreational resources and facilities available in the community.

### ***Purpose***

The principal function of the Advisory Board is to serve as a communication bridge between the Recreation Director, the Board of Selectmen and the Community and to promote programs and services to encourage support from our community through input and participation.

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Monday, March 5, 2012  
7:00 P.M.  
Recreation Department

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

Present: Al Hume, Carla Taylor, Morgen Gillis, Celeste Burns, Donna Keuthe.  
Excused: Chris Shipp

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Al called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. REVIEW / APPROVAL MINUTES: Carla made the motion to approve the minutes.  
Morgen seconded. Motion carried.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. Term Limits update (Celeste): Celeste read through the Minutes to see if there was any other insight into the term limits but didn't find any other clarity. She thinks we should keep Al and Carla at the October 2012 expiration and she and Chris should have October, 2013 expiration dates and Morgen should expire in October, 2014 to get back to the original schedule as set up by the BOS. Because Hope told us that Carla's term expired last year and she was just reappointed we will need to make sure we clarify her date. She's contacted Carter and will keep the Board updated. Al questioned whether

she sent him the letter we have that shows how the term limits were initially set up and Celeste replied in the negative but is planning on bringing it when she meets with him. Al then asked if there were other issues we wanted to bring up to the BOS. Celeste answered that we wanted to be put on the Agenda to clarify the role of the Alternate and whether we can change his or her status to permanent when a vacancy arises. Donna added that it takes the BOS quite a while to act on appointments so we need to clarify this issue. Celeste will send a letter to the BOS asking to be put on the Agenda. Al added that it's best to send them the letter ahead of time so they have time to review and know what we're asking for before we go in front of them. Donna added that they need to address the Alternate issue as well and she's not sure if they have any applications in front of them. Robert Patenau had put his name in at one point. Celeste then reviewed the 4 issues to address: filling alternate positions, making someone permanent status, outstanding applications and term limits. Carla added that we want to make sure they have spell out the policy so we have a way to explain the process. She also said that Chris suggested we go before them so, in addition to Al, he may be one who would want to attend.

- b. Update on figures discussed regarding Revolving Fund/Revenue (Donna): Donna began by handing out a memo explaining the redesign of the Revolving Fund and stated that the information is also available online. She then reviewed how then fund was created and how it was funded. The town also has received a legal opinion that stated that if you adopt the RRF, under the RSA all revenue must go into the fund, not just above estimated revenue, which is how the Warrant Article was worded, and that opinion is another reason for the current change on the table. She then distributed the two warrant articles pertaining to the Recreation Department, specifically the RRF and the soccer field. As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, the RRF contains \$164,175.00. The MRD goal for revenue is 80,000.00. Current programs will cost approximately 95,000.00 so they will operate in a deficit the first year. Within 5 years the goal is to break even or generate a profit without pricing themselves out of existent. Last year's budget was just over 87,000.00. Donna created two budgets, one with the RRF and one without and that's where the figure of 95,000 came from. The budget was created in anticipation of the

warrant article passing so there will be some scrambling to increase the budget if it fails for some reason at Town Meeting. She hasn't heard any negativity regarding the Article. ABC and BOS have endorsed unanimously. So AI confirmed that the budget is less than last year because of the RRF and Donna confirmed. AI then asked about permit revenues that used to go into the RRF and Donna answered that will cease and only what the MRD directly raises will go into the fund. She also added that those beach and dump fees were going into the RRF but any revenue raised by MRD was going to the general town fund. She then reviewed from last month the fixed costs that will remain taxpayer funded. Another reason for this change is to show that those who play will now pay and to track it. Finally, there was some question about the legality of just abolishing the fund, as last year's Warrant Article would have done, because under the RSA the money can only be used for Recreation purposes, so this new Article addresses that issue as well. Donna gave the example of the success of Newmarket's RRF whereby their budget has stayed at \$250,000 but they have grown into a \$500,000 budget through the use of the RRF. (Taxpayer cost has stayed at 250K) as something that will hopefully happen here.

- c. Scoreboard update (Carla and Chris): Carla met with Harry and he agreed that the prices in the catalog seemed accurate and when we're ready he'll get us contact info. He also said that the School board has not wanted advertising on the scoreboard themselves but have put plaques underneath. AI then questioned whether Chris had given any input. Celeste answered that yes, he informed her and Donna that he talked with Mike Lancor and Jerry Bhutto and they both thought it was a great idea. It was suggested that we, as a Board, present to the whole School Board. Donna added that he was willing to go on Monday to present to them if we wanted. AI would like to hear their feelings on sponsorship in case they've changed. Celeste also said that Chris didn't go into detail to the Board members on the actual funding. Donna, Celeste and Carla believe the school will use it if it's there. Carla added that it will belong to them anyway and it's their responsibility just like the gym. Carla doesn't think we need to bring much more than a picture and we should tell them it's long overdue. AI wants it mentioned that the RAB and MRD are behind the project as well and also to ask them if

they have any funding suggestions to cover all bases. Carla questioned if we should call the manufacturer to inquire about hardwiring. Morgen questioned about the installation and if the school would be covering the cost. Celeste thought maybe the ML coaches would like to write something since they use the space. Donna said that she would run it by Dan, another of the coaches. Celeste will ask Cassie Coons whether she would use it. All agreed that the more information to present with the better. Carla also brought up the fact that Mark has been here for a long time and knows there's a need for it and it is progress for the schools. Celeste will call Chris to get us on the Agenda. Al indicated he will attend as well.

#### VI. RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

Donna highlighted the Carroll county teams with the boys finishing second in the A Division and the girls dominated the entire tournament and won the championship. The MRD has changed the age groupings for Softball this year based on the numbers and now will have 1-3 together and 4-6 together. We now play with Carroll County teams and that's how they split it so now we'll be consistent with them. Some people are not on board with the change so they're going to sit down with a few people they think may be interested in coaching and they may offer a parent meeting for parents to express any concerns they may have relating to the new softball set up. They will internally try to transition the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and 4<sup>th</sup> graders and she has sat down with one of the coaches already to have a conversation with him about it. Carla then questioned what concerns were raised to which Donna answered that there were two issues. First, is there too big a gap between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders and their abilities and will 3<sup>rd</sup> graders be ready to advance to that level. It used to be only that Bristol had a younger team but now Ossipee and another town will also have a lower level team so they'll have more opportunities to play. Also, 4<sup>th</sup> graders will not be head honchos like they were probably hoping but she hasn't heard how big the issues are. Celeste said she is concerned about the change and while she is happy that her 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be challenged her 1<sup>st</sup> grader doesn't know how to play so she really needs to learn the fundamentals more so than the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Carla responded that there's really only 1-2 3<sup>rd</sup> graders that have a handle on the fundamentals so the gap is on paper more so than skill wise

because there's just not the commitment to softball here. Donna added that she works hard to keep the two year increments when she can but the numbers don't work this year. The forms are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> she believes. Carla then asked about clinics and Donna answered that there's four scheduled in March. Carla then asked if it would be Brian and Donna (Tatro) and Donna K said she is not coaching so she is not yet sure who else it will be.

Al then inquired about the numbers and Donna K said numbers have dropped. She used to send 401 notices and now sends approx. 265. Al then brought up the staggering drops in the Laconia school system. Donna has noticed drops in Soccer and basketball as well. Carla pointed out that the MRD now has flag football to contend with and Donna added that their own fall volleyball competes with the other activities for students. Hockey has also grown to such an extent that kids can't play basketball in conjunction. All agreed that there's competing sports across the seasons.

Donna then brought up the Community Resources Fair. The MRD, human services, visiting nurses and the library will put on another one this year due to responses to last year's survey. It will focus mainly on Senior needs. Last year had over 100 attendees. Donna would like RAB members to help either by manning the MRD table or volunteering during the day. It's the first Friday in June. She listed many of the volunteer opportunities and services presented on that day. Celeste confirmed the date would be June 1<sup>st</sup> and then made a plug for the Girl Scouts Clean Up Green Up on May 12<sup>th</sup> and explained how many of the volunteers attending that day came from the vendor list for the Fair.

Al inquired about parent complaints at MRD. Donna received a little feedback on softball but it was nothing negative and says she hasn't had any other issues arise.

Carla asked Donna if her new assistant could alternate meetings with her because so many issues seem to be youth sports driven. Donna was receptive to the idea. There

was a brief discussion regarding the clinics and Abby Taylor helping and Donna being more than happy to have her help.

VII. CITIZEN INPUT: None

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA: April 9<sup>th</sup>.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Celeste made the Motion to adjourn and Morgen seconded. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:50.

DRAFT