

New Durham Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes 03/06/13
New Durham School 6:30PM

Call to Order at 6:42PM

Present: Kellie Chase, Kristyn Bernier, Dot Veisel, Sherri Brulotte, Marcia Berry, Jennifer Nyman, Sheri Joy

Public Input: None

Volunteer of the year candidates were discussed with many names being mentioned for all of the support the rec department has had in the last year. Charlie Morgan was nominated, having recently passed away after fighting a long battle with cancer. Charlie coached the peewee basketball team despite her illness and completed the season before her passing. She and her family were supporters of rec programs. Clayton Randall was also mentioned as having a huge impact on our athletic programs and for everything he did for the 250th celebration and the Christmas caroling outing. Other important supporters mentioned were Cathy Allyn, Lon and Winnie Berry, Celeste Chasse, Michael Stasiuk from ND School, Diane Thayer, Steve Bohmiller and many others who lend a hand throughout the year.

It was decided to recognize a number informally as well as choose a formal recognition.

Jennifer Nyman motioned to honor Charlie Morgan and Clayton Randall as the 2012 ND Recreation Volunteers of the year. Motion seconded by Sherri Brulotte. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheri Joy, who has been a very active member of the former NDAA and the ND Parks and Recreation Commission, has decided that with her current term ending, she is not seeking re-appointment. Sheri was recognized for the many hours over many years which she has dedicated so much time to the recreation department and has been so important on the walking path, athletics, ball fields and beach projects. She and her family have been outstanding assets to the community. Sheri has promised to continue to help out at events in the future, but that she has some other volunteer ventures she would like to take.

There are currently two open commission seats at this time, and the BOS will be notified that we are seeking the interested residents who would like to make the commitment to recreation.

The Lake Plunge fundraiser has been scheduled for April 29th, and a theme for this year's ND celebration was discussed. The most popular theme was a Wild West theme. Marcia was asked to see if Michael Stasiuk could design a towel for the event, and Kellie was asked to get the classes from the school involved by endorsing a plunger. The class with the highest income for the event would all receive towels.

Baseball signups are ongoing with a deadline of March 14. There was discussion about the decision to no longer have a peewee teeball team as the interest wears out early on with such a young age. If there are enough returning players from last year, we will do a team, however, from this point forward tee ball will start for those entering kindergarten. There is some concern about numbers for rosters, although other teams are having a difficult time as well. Options will be considered once the final numbers are in for the teams.

Kristyn advised the group that there had been an issue with David Bickford making arrangements to videotape Rec Commission meetings without having the courtesy to discuss it with the Chair. The Rec Commissioners had been cc'd on the email originally sent to Bickford with regard to the manner in which he chose to act. As the Chair of the BOS, he has no authority to make such a decision, nor does he have the authority to tell the Rec Commission what they will and will not do without a vote of the full BOS. The town videotaping policy is very clear, and the Revolving Fund and Daycare issues are not covered for videotaping per policy. Since the decision to spend general fund money lies with the Rec Director, Rec Commission meetings do not fall under the purview of the town policy. Kristyn explained that if the BOS were to vote to videotape meetings, then it would be demanded that all commissions and boards who utilize town general funds will also need to be videotaped, regardless of their budget. The issue was with Mr. Bickford appearing to be sneaky in the manner he chose to take, circumventing parties who should have been involved in at least a discussion, with no reason articulated for why he suddenly feels the need to record Rec Commission meetings. Kristyn suggested that she is concerned that this has less to do with the rec commission than it does with Mr. Bickford doing this as retaliation for Kristyn questioning his decisions and actions as BOS chair in a letter and a phone call to him in the fall of 2012.

Kristyn asked Kellie about the financials for the general fund, and where she was not certain as to the status, she was asked to check with the town's financial officer to assess the current budget status.

Kellie gave an update of planned events and advised that she has a flier out in the community.

Per RSA 91-A:3, the Recreation Commission can enter into non-public session to discuss personnel issues and matters which might impact the reputation of an individual. Kristyn Bernier motioned to go into non-public session to discuss some Creative Kids Club issues, motion seconded by Jennifer Nyman. Roll taken and all members voted Aye. The ND Recreation Commission entered into non-public session at 9:00PM.

Discussed in non-public were the resignation of a CKC employee and the hiring of an employee to fill the finance position for billing. Also discussed was the CKC Director's contract for 2013. Injury reports for CKC and rec were reviewed.

The Recreation Commission came out of non-public session at 9:45 PM.

Per the discussion in non-public, a motion was made by Kristyn Bernier and seconded by Sheri Joy to accept the resignation of billing clerk Jackie Snyder with regret. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dot Veisel to give a conditional offer for the position of billing clerk to Carol Allen at a starting rate of \$10.00 per hour and up to 5 hours per week as needed. Seconded by Sherri Brulotte. Motion passed unanimously.

The Recreation Commissioners signed a 2013 contract for CKC Director Laura McCarthy. It was discussed and emphasized that McCarthy is a full time salaried employee who is not allowed to accrue compensatory time unless given prior approval from Dot or Sherri. When McCarthy works a holiday, she needs to make arrangements to swap that day with her supervisors and make certain appropriate coverage is arranged. Kristyn asked that Dot and Sherri monitor the hours for this position, as the direct care hours are less than 5 hours per day, and with staff assistance, the work week should not be beyond a 40 hour work week. Having a billing clerk has also taken considerable responsibility off of the director's plate as well.

An issue had arisen regarding minimum number of students to keep CKC open, and the group agreed that if parents contract for services, we cannot shut down the program as parents expect the care. It was also emphasized that on a snow day, if the school is not open and CKC cannot open as a result, McCarthy is NOT to be providing CKC child care in her own home in lieu of at the school premises.

Given the fundraiser plunge scheduled for the end of the month, it was agreed that the Commission will meet on April 3, 2013 at 6:30PM for the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristyn Bernier, Chair