

New Durham Parks and Recreation Commission

Meeting minutes/Draft

March 17, 2017

Present: Doug Perkins, Dot Veisel, Nichole Hunter, Department Head

Excused absence: Pattie Luckern

Meeting was called to order at 6:30

Issues discussed:

- Nichole requested an accounting transfer from the Financial Administrator to reconcile the Revolving Fund Account with the General Fund. However, she discovered several errors/ concerns in the statement so authorization for transfer of funds will be delayed until they are addressed and corrected.
- Nichole presented information about MyRec.Com, a recreation management software program. This program would allow residents to register online for ongoing programs / field trips and to pay program fees by credit card. The program interfaces with the software program already in place at the Town Hall for registering vehicles, dog licensing and payment of property taxes, etc. This program would offer easier access and convenience for residents as all registration materials are online. Residents would still have the option of paying fees by check. Many redundant paperwork duties would be greatly eliminated / reduced freeing up time for the Recreation Director to devote to programming and community fund raising activities.

Move to authorize Program Director Nichole Hunter, on behalf of the New Durham Parks and Recreation Commission, to pursue a two year contract with MyRec.com from Killington VT. for \$1170 per year. Fees will be paid by the Revolving Fund. Motion made by Dorothy Veisel , seconded by Doug Perkins. Passed unanimously.

- Vendor Bingo participants chose to donate their registration fees to Recreation.
- Youth Basketball Season has wrapped up. There was a discussion of some issues about “rough behavior” during games by players as well as “negative behavior” from parents. These concerns were not connected with the New Durham teams. Lack of consistency in application of the rules and behavioral expectations by refereeing officials was identified as a critical factor. Nichole will address these concerns with the League.
- Open Gym Basketball has 30-40 individuals registered. It ends at the end of March.
- Open Gym Walking/Running Program has been well attended and will be continued.
- Nichole is running a Spring Dreaming Craft Series on 3 Sundays in March. She is offering an afternoon of crafts open to people of all ages.
- Recreation donated a themed basket as a fund raiser for the New Durham School PTO.
- Senior Bingo will continue through the summer. Nichole will ask Ali Perkins to cover set up and break down of chairs and tables when she goes out on Family leave.
- Spring Celebration and Fair is scheduled for April 15 from 9 – 2. Activities include Vendor/Craft Bingo, Kid’s bingo, and an Easter Egg Hunt.
- Spring Sports registrations are available for: Kids Instructional, T-Ball, Softball, Baseball, and Track & Field.
- Earth Day clean-up is scheduled for April 22nd & 23rd. Bags are available at the transfer station.
- Volunteers are needed to work on the Playscape project. Nichole will consult the DPW about removing the roundabout and evaluating the safety criteria of the swing.
- We discussed the steps needed to get a proposal ready for the BOS to construct a Community Garden space on town property.
- The Town-Wide Yard Sale is scheduled for June 24th and 25th.

- The survey for summer activities is available online for residents to compete.
- The Town Beach will open in mid-June. All staff is in place. There will be no summer camp offered this year. Weekly Field trips and activities will be offered based upon input from the activities survey.
- Celebrate New Durham Day is scheduled for Saturday, July 29th. Activities options were discussed. The Commission members highlighted the need to establish a budget to support town events such as the Senior Holiday Banquet and Celebrate ND Day.
- Nichole will be out on maternity leave from approximately mid-May to early July. She submitted a list of specific areas she needs coverage and assistance from volunteers.

Meeting adjourned: 8:45

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy L Veisel