

North Hampton Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes Monday, Aug. 12, 2008

Present: Sandy Dewing, Chair, Larry Murphy, Diane Wheeler, Recreation Director, Kim Place, Christine Fredericks

Absent: Susan (Beattie)Dench

Meeting began at 6:15pm.

Recreation Commission members read to themselves the two separate summer rec camp overviews that were submitted by Andrea Heath, Full time Director and KC Smith, Part time Camp Director. Diane had met with them the week prior to discuss the overview of the three camps: FT, PTw/field trip and Part time only.

Various issues discussed were:

- Summer Rec Camp start and end date. Staff did not have enough time to train, set up camp and felt “rushed”. Dates were decided by Charlie Brindamour. Gym floor date was set by floor company for an Aug 4. Date was not decided by Rec Director. Original date requested was June 30-Aug. 8. (same as Little Nippers)
- Summer school sign in and out became a problem as not all of the teachers would come to sign them out and then would not sign them back in. Kids were left to come back to rec on their own and wouldn’t sign in.
- Had problems with an Admin Staff member . Complained several times about the way rec camp was run as it didn’t “accommodate” summer school. Complained to Jan Devore about water in kitchen (staff was filling water balloons for water day and hadn’t yet wiped up)This came from a custodian thru staff member. Also complained about summer staff using the foyer instead of hallway, also said counselor did not have shoes on. Felt Admin staff member was not on same page and supportive of summer rec camp. Counselor addressed; said he had shoes on..
- Beach days when parents attend, campers run outside of orange cone boundaries, counselor leaves assigned area to get child, leaving kids unsupervised, kids are going to see their parents. If parents attend beach, they’re responsible for kids. Also, parents NOT reading supplied material tried to drop campers off early then 9am for bus that takes full time kids to beach. One parent yelled at counselor. Some orange shirts were not worn first day. In Rules and Regulations states that campers will not attend any offsite trip without camp tees. **Safety issue.**
- Field trips: All were successful except Fischer Cats: storm day. Went stayed for 2.5 hours started game after they left, no refund. Mike Murphy of Fischer Cats, after much discussion between Diane and Mike, said that they would honor tix up to 4! Go on any game. Memo went out to parents.
- Yorks too short, kids ran out of activities.

- Loved having bus pick u and drop off at water Country. Easy in easy out, no stress with extra people coming and checking in before kids. Format went smooth.
- Andrea and KC both agreed that this summer went more smoothly with the new set up of week by week with Field trips or no field trips. No campers were dropped off without having been signed up for field trips. Knew exactly who was on trips and got rid of stress prior to trips: bus seats, enough counselors, \$\$\$, waivers were all signed. Had a few parents complain verbally. Parents trying to “negotiate” camp fees was also an issue.
- First aid training was not like it was last year, basic first aid was left out only CPR addressed. Diane will speak with Mike Tully about change.
- Felt that third position (Admin Asst.) may not be needed due to new format of paying week by week. Can pay at Town office. Directors can switch oin Thursday and one can stay back at rec camp.
- Had some clean up issues with part time staff. Diane addressed staff, no issues after that meeting.
- Need to somehow keep staff members on same page, some felt as staff was divided part time vs full time. Diane Discussed with them prior to camp, about team games, etc. Was not done. Counselor of week fell by the wayside.

Surveys were sent out via email. Only a few came back. Two were negative complaining about fees and unfairness of new format. Said were going to look around for new camp. Diane did area towns camp fee comparison:

Rye: Full time Camp and Part time Camp, FT cost \$120 residents, \$140 non. No field trips

PT is \$65 per week, no Field trips.No preschool camp available.

Hampton: Full time camp only. FT cost \$220 per two week or \$110 per week, two field trips. Preschool camp is \$75 per week. 8:30-12:00

Seacoast YMCA Full time camp only. FT camp is \$160 per week membership or \$50 registration fee (under 10 yrs). \$175 per week membership or \$50 registration fee (ages 10-12). \$180 per week membership or \$50 registration fee (ages 13/14) field trips are included as well as camp site location: Camp Gundalow. Have own bus transportation.

Exeter: Full time camp only (subsidized by Town which means camp is IN Recreation budget, which means less cost to resident).Amount not available .Two Field trips are included

Portsmouth: Full time camp only. FT cost \$105 residents and \$125 non-residents. Field trips included, have their own facilities including pool and vans.

Seabrook: Full time camp only. Town subsidizes camp.

Stratham Information not available.

- After breaking down camp costs per week: part time only is: \$165 per 6 weeks= \$27.50 per week and further breaking it down is 15 hours divided by \$27.50= \$1.83 per hour.
 - Par time field trip is broken down same way except one field trip is included. \$65 per week.
 - Full time is \$110 per week included two field trips.
- Commission discussed raising fees for Part time with Field trips (+\$5.00)and Part time only (\$10.00) . Chris Fredericks noted that she pays \$10 per hour for a babysitter and is inexpensive. Larry Murphy also added that we need to have a mandatory parents meeting prior to summer rec camp to go over all Rules and Regulations so not to have any issues or miscommunication.

Went over Rec Camp fees and expenses. Summer Rec lost money. Did not discuss Little Nippers camp had not met with Director Kristen Whalley.

Parks and Rec Budget:

Commission asked why beach Parking is on Rec Budget and why monies go into General Fund? Shouldn't we raise beach parking? Diane noted that is was brought to the BOS to raise and it was turned down. Requested that Beach asking come out of Rec Budget. Reviewed budget and suggested one porta-pottie removed (there are two due to the high volume of traffic during the summer at Dearborn) and then perhaps charge for Santa's Visit and Egg Hunt (then it could be removed from budget and Revolving Account used). Diane will create an "A" and "B" Version budget to submit to Steve Fournier.

Revolving Budget:

Diane submitted the Rec Revolving Budget of fees taken in and contract services etc. paid. Sandy moved to motion to approve Revolving Budget. Larry Murphy seconded. All is favor.

WinterFest '09

New date is January 31. Dane will ask Chief Lambert if we can have fireworks at the Bonfire at Dearborn. Phase 1 Planning to begin next meeting, Monday, September 8, 2008 at 6:15 pm at the Town offices.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm.