

Sandown Recreation Commission  
January 24, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Blaisdell at 6:40 p.m. Members present were: George Blaisdell, John Donahue, and Veronica Utman. Also present was Deb Brown, Parks and Recreation Director. Absent were: Cindy Bucu (ex-officio) and Jessica Scarlet.

The minutes of the November 8, 2017, meeting were reviewed.

Mr. Blaisdell made a motion to accept the minutes as written.

Ms. Utman seconded the motion.

It was suggested that on Line 61 the spelling of Petra Paving be corrected.

Ms. Utman made a motion to accept the minutes as amended.

Mr. Blaisdell seconded the motion.

The motion was approved, with two in favor, and Mr. Donahue abstaining.

Ms. Brown noted that the budget meeting with the Budget Committee went well, although she is concerned about the cut in the summer payroll line, which was due to an inability to obtain life guards.

The Town warrant article regarding the purchase of land adjacent to the Recreation property was discussed. The present owner had planned to develop the property with multiple housing, but is willing to sell it to the town. The conditions of the sale seem reasonable, and the potential long-term savings to the town (no additions to the school rate....) makes the sale attractive.

Requisition forms were signed for payment of the winter ballroom dance class, and the adult yoga class.

Ms. Brown reported that Mr. Britton had inspected (via camera) the drainage pipe. He found that the pipe has no obstructions within, but is under two feet of water. He asked if we wanted to relocate the pipe. Other problems include the location of a beaver dam, and the fact that the end of the drainage froze, causing some back-up. The Commission will address this at the next meeting.

Ms. Brown noted that the Town has a warrant article to treat the milfoil problem at Phillips Pond. This is badly needed. While the treatment will be made in the spring, the application for a permit needs to be done now. The funds for the permit (\$1000?) need to be allocated now. There will be \$2000 coming in from Phillips Pond (new construction) than will cover this expense.

Mr. Blaisdell made a motion to approve spending up to \$2000 for the permit to treat the milfoil at Phillips Pond, noting that when the two homes under construction are finished, the funds received will offset this expense.

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Mr. Donahue seconded the motion.  
There was no discussion.  
The vote was unanimous, in favor.

Ms. Brown gave an update on the December programs:

The Bright Lights trip was cancelled, due to a lack of participants.

The boxwood craft program was well received.

Dec. 11 program for seniors with Plaistow (Brian Cochran) – excellent!

New Years Eve day – program with Plaistow and Atkinson; magician Norman Ng.

Ms. Brown noted that since the first of the year she has been getting a lot of requests for rentals of the recreation building. She has already booked 8 private rentals between January and March. Other groups booked through March are: Lions Club, Girl Scouts, two ISL meetings, Ballroom (special all class social), Timberlane Middle School cast party, CPR/AED-Feb. 17 (two sessions). Also, February school vacation plans are in the works.

Ms. Brown met with Atkinson and Plaistow recreation directors today to discuss joint programs.

Current, there is a (joint program) St. Patrick's Day senior social at the Plaistow Town Hall, with Brian Cochran.

Ms. Brown noted that at the Recreation Conference in January, one item of particular interest was a computer software program. It appears that use of the program would save many hours, especially for the summer program. She would like the Commission to "keep this on the back burner" and review it again after more is learned about it.

The next meeting is to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Utman  
Recording Secretary