

**Town of Stratham  
Stratham Recreation Commission**



**Stratham Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 16, 2012 @ 7:30pm**

Members Present: Tracy Abbott, Tim Copeland, April Mason, Kevin Peck, Seth Hickey  
(Recreation Director)

Members Absent: Claire Ellis, Stephanie Ilberg-Lamm

Tim made a motion to approve the July 26, 2012 Minutes as written. April seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

General Budget:

The Summer Camp program's actual expenses will be higher than budgeted due to large enrollment. The generated income will more than cover the increased expenses.

Field Maintenance – this line item has been maxed out so any further expenses for 2012 will be paid out of the Revolving Fund (Field Rentals).

The Senior Trips line item will have money left over in this account. This money will be moved to the Revolving Fund to offset the negative balance in that account.

Revolving Fund:

Discussed several accounts which have good balances, for example Coyote Club & Pilates.

Stevens Park:

EYSA (Exeter Youth Soccer Association) has arranged with Seth to use (1) field at Stevens Park 6 days per week for their Fall program. It will be Field #2 and they will pay a field rental fee.

Seth has been asked by the Selectmen to look into a public water system, possibly bubblers. He will be working with the Town Planner, DES & Engineers to see how this can be accomplished. We have the well already...

Stratham Hill Park:

Seth announced that we did receive the Trail Grant that he applied for, this money to be used for trail signage and maps throughout the Park. The Grant was for just under \$5,000. Seth will be talking to some of the homeowners who are adjacent to the Park and have trails running through their property. We need to receive permissive easements, which will be verbal for now, so that we can include these specific trails on the map.

Fall Facility Usage – EYSA is using one of the back fields; rentals overall are very busy.

Administrative:

Seth has ordered all the playground equipment, as discussed at our July 26, 2012 meeting.

The wrap-up items from the Stratham Fair have all been addressed.

Survey results for both Baseball & Softball are in and were distributed to the Board. Seth will review with each Sports Board. There was some discussion among our Board as to the Sports Boards possibly coming up with an action plan to address any issues that the surveys might reveal, items that the individual Board thinks might be an improvement to the program.

The Parks & Recreation intern will be starting soon for the full Fall semester.

The Fire Tower 5K is all set for this year. Jordan who typically runs the event has moved out of town but will assist Dave Short as much as possible.

The Harvest Festival is scheduled for October 21, 2012 from 1:00-4:00pm. The face painter & band are scheduled – we will discuss more in more at our September meeting.

Soccer:

The Soccer Board was represented by Sherri Ritz, Aidan Barry, Jon Huot, & Harvey Bierman. Sherri reported that the Fall soccer program starts September 8<sup>th</sup> & the coaches meeting will be held September 6<sup>th</sup>; they will be using Seacoast United (SUSC) to assist with Coach mentoring. SUSC was able to commit 3 people, 3 days per week during our practices on Mon, Tues, & Thurs; the Fall Soccer Academy will start September 12<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-6:00 pm on Wednesdays at Stevens Park; the Pre-Season training camp which was slated to run the week of August 27<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled due to low registration numbers; the Challenger Summer Soccer camp was very successful, approximately 165 kids participated (vs. 225 kids last year).

Baseball:

Seth explained to the Board how the Cooperstown team selection has worked in previous years. This year, an introduction email will go out letting parents know about participation requirements, fundraising expectations, etc. and that the Baseball Board will be expecting team commitments by mid-September.

Tracy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm, Tim seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

- \* Letter for vendors who are using Stratham Hill Park without permission from the Town
- \* Costs for concrete and sand as well shipping and handling for all playground equipment
- \* Fire Tower 5K – new person in charge
- \* Summer camp & Lacrosse survey results
- \* Harvest Festival