

Town of Stratham



Stratham Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes February 15, 2024

- I. At 7:04 Kate called the meeting to order.
- II. Members in Attendance- Kate Dardinski, Brent Scott, Ryan Guerette, Rebecca Waltz & Jessie Hook
Absent-Allison Knab
Guests-Seth Hickey Parks and Recreation Director
- III. Consideration of minutes from previous meeting.
Brent made a motion to approve January minutes, Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.
- IV. Treasurers report- Ryan updated on expenses. Busses for Pats Peak were largest expense.
- V. Report of Stratham Parks and Recreation Director-
Summer Camp registration-600 registrations- no major issues.
76er's-Seth is doing a presentation on the town website and making access easier for them.
Senior programming-coffee socials, weekly trips filing up, going well. Diane adding new programming.
Youth Sports-Basketball tournament this weekend. Baseball committee-developing budget for 2024 season. New pitching mounds have arrived. Baseball registration is open.
TMAC-Temporary signage to be put up reminding user's dogs must be leashed on private property. Meeting next week. Eco counter has been moved to near the horse pull area. The numbers have increased.
Park association- Had meeting Jan 30th, working on plan to trim trees along fields.
Stratham Hill Park-Baseball field work has begun in preparation of spring 2024 season. Seth indicated the Drew needs to follow up with Select Board about desired changes/improvements to the field, snack shack and batting cages.
Stevens Park- Meeting held with about 30 people in attendance. Seth presented to the attendees about the desired improvements. These include adding a pavilion, expanding the parking lot, and additional court space. Some discussion about what the court space should be used for; mixed use or dedicated pickle-ball.

Request to name hometown dugout to John Hopping, ceremony at beginning of baseball season.

Programing/Events-White Pine-low attendance this session, working with them to set up registration for future sessions further in advance. February Vacation Program-Planning a ski day for Pats Peak kids at Waterville valley over break. Wilderness First Aid Course, SOLO, April 6th-7th. Timbernook, April TBD. Food Truck Festival, May 4th 2024. Planning meeting next week. Take a kid Mountain Biking Day-May. Afterschool Mountain Bike Club, May-June.

Summer camp-

CIT program to be opened to more kids from waitlist. Initial spots filled up quickly.

Kingdom Trails overnight trip with Amherst Recreation

Bi weekly bike trips to Bearbrook State Park

Data Collection-Seth is working on a document tracking number attendees at all events/programs.

VII. New Business

Recreation commission bylaws- Proposed revision of bylaws with the separation of Youth Sports guidelines from the bylaws. Discussed advantages of separating Youth Sports guidelines and benefits of having consistent communication with Sports Boards, Recreation department and Recreation Commission. Discussed that sports policy changes would need to be approved by Recreation Department and Recreation Commission. Goal is to work toward splitting the document at next meeting.

Communication Strategies-With the ending of Stroll Seth will do direct mailers geared to older population.

Summer intern -Seth is meeting with a UNH professor about having a summer intern.

Gaga pits at Stratham Hill Park and Stevens Park- Kate made a motion to approve up to \$4000 for 2 Gaga pits; Brent seconded, all in favor; motion approved.

Ryan noted he would step down as Treasurer, Rebecca offered to take over as treasurer.

VIII. At 8:36 Jessie motion to adjourn the meeting Brent seconded, all in favor. Motion approved.

Next meeting Tuesday March 5th 2024.