

DRAFT

Town of Stratham



Stratham Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2025

- I. Kate called the meeting to order at 7:01pm
- II. Members in Attendance: Kate Dardinski, Rebecca Waltz, Jessie Hook, Donna Onacki, Ryan Guerette
Guests: Seth Hickey Parks & Rec Director, Ray Faust Baseball Board, Sean Burke Baseball Board, Casey Jurevic, Diane Smith Parks & Rec, Caitlin Middaguh, Rick Dolce Baseball Board
Absent: Allison Knab
- III. Consideration of minutes from previous meeting- Kate made a motion to approve October minutes, Rebecca seconded motion. All in favor, minutes approved.
- IV. Treasurer's Report- Ryan reported on current Rec Revolving Fund. Senior program community trips are currently showing a \$2000 deficit for 2025. Ryan to share report to chairs of sports committees. Ryan to create a read only version to be shared.
- V. Report of the Stratham Parks & Rec Director
 - a. Teen Programing- would like to support teens in community, will use senior programing model for teen program expansion.
 - b. Senior Programing- Diane discussed that programs are going well and many selling out. Generally, 20-25 people for weekly coffee socials. Book swap had about 10. Gundalow presentation was part of monthly munch and learn, well attended. Seal walk 11/14 to Newburyport is full. Mystery lunches sell out day they go on sale.
 - c. TMAC-met 11/12 discussed ebikes and electric motor bikes at park. Park association wants to weigh in before select board discussion. Conservation commission asking to have them not be allowed. Will also be making recommendations for off leash dogs at SHP.

- d. Stratham Hill Park-working on 10 year plan with DPW. Roofs, bathrooms need to be redone. Seth reached out to UNH who does Strategic Planning, including surveying and gathering community feedback.
 - i. Plan to redue 4-H barn roof, 4-H bathrooms. Plan to have indoor ice rink again.
- e. Stevens Park-working with Emanuel Engineering. Moved pavilion to end of parking lot.
- f. Pats Peak Ski Program-sold out, starts in January
- g. Zach working on summer camp contracts-hoping to be set up by mid December
- h. Seth met with fire inspector at SHP, looking to move summer camp to SHP. Utilizing 4-H barn and lower pavilion. Have discussed with summer camp director and park association. Camp dates would remain same as past years.
- i. UNH Interns- Seth has interns lined up for Spring 2026 and Fall 2026.

VI. New/Ongoing Business

a. Baseball-

Allstar program- Baseball board is asking that Rec Commission reevaluate that All Star program is classified as a continuation of town sport and would not be subject to field use fees. Looking to use fields for practices and summer session.

-Rec Commission will get back to baseball board on decision.

-Seth noted that if the All Star program registration is run through Parks and Rec/rec desk then would be considered Stratham program.

Updates to program- Towns have agreed self-funded program. \$120-150 per kid should pay for program costs. Exception is Cooperstown, families will pay additional. No fee to try out, all kids can try out if played rec ball.

All Star board was created with 2 representatives from each town. Last year there were some conflicts hopefully a board will make this easier. Drew Goddard and Sean Burke are Stratham reps.

Ray explained that in past few years Stratham has not had enough kids to form own team. Last year a second team was formed and will do again if able/need, but kids still need to try out.

Tournament field use would be separate; would address if it came up. Sean said there are currently no plans to host this year.

Main focus of All Stars has been 10-12 age groups, but program starts at 8u. Last year hosted 11u tournament.

Sean noted it is better for fields to be used, coaches help maintain fields when utilizing. Cooperstown-12u, 1500-2000 per kid. Generally the 11u team is Cooperstown team, there are exceptions at times.

All Star board will make decision on coaches.

No banner sales last year, plan to do this year.

Friends of Stratham bought some new equipment last season.

- b. Basketball- Rebecca made a motion to accept \$3000 sponsorship check from River Birch builders. This is to be used towards uniforms, equipment and fees. Kate seconded motion. All in favor.
- c. Soccer- Kate provided update. 5-8 boys went well, Stratham had one team. Played Hampton and FCX 11u team on weeknights. FCX used fields at same time and no issues.

VII. At 8:19 Kate made a motion 8:19 to adjourn the meeting. Rebecca seconded. All in favor.

Next meeting-Tuesday December 9th 7pm.