

Town of Stratham



Stratham Recreation Commission

May 13, 2025

- I. At 7:03pm by Kate Dardinski called the meeting to order.
- II. Members in attendance- Kate Dardinski, Brent Scott, Jessie Hook, Ryan Guerette
Absent: Rebecca Waltz, Allison Knab
Guests: Amanda Kelly; Seth Hickey Stratham Parks & Rec Director
- III. Consideration of Minutes of previous meetings- Unable to approve April minutes.
- IV. Treasurer's Report- Currently reconciled through February. Ryan waiting for March and April information.
- V. Report of the Stratham Parks & Recreation Director-
 - a. Senior programing-going well, Exeter using similar senior programing model.
 - b. Brent brought up asking for the town the cover portion of Zach's salary that is coming from Rec Revolving fund.
 - c. TMAC-meeting next week, meeting with town attorney to review potential changes.
 - d. ECO counters all working. Insurance helped cover cost of damaged unit.
 - e. SHP-Looking into holding corn hole tournament Oct/Nov as a fundraiser for skating rink.
 - f. Stevens Park-waiting on revisions to drawing. Moving pavilion and looking at court location.
 - g. Programing-Running races started last week.
 - h. Food trucks- Begin Thursday nights in June.
 - i. Summerfest to be held in July.
 - j. Working on usage policy for Sewall Room.
 - k. Boy Scouts use of box trailer- Kate made a motion to approve use of trailer for Scouts. Brent seconded, all in favor.
- VI. New/Ongoing Business
 - a. Great Bay Food Truck Festival update- 700 tickets sold this year, 1 truck decided not to come due to weather. Tables in both barns, band able to set up in 4-H barn. Town had insurance for event.

b. Playground accessibility- Amanda Kelly came to discuss how to make parks/playgrounds more accessible. As an Exeter resident she has worked with them to make parks more accessible.

Playground access -surface wood chips make playgrounds inaccessible. Poured in place solid surface are used some places, but expensive. Mats are inexpensive and increase critical fall height, they go on top of wood chips. Would not need to cover entire play area to start, just need to create a path to get to ground level equipment such as swings.

Funding/costs-Some Grants available and some local foundations help with costs.

ADA playground equipment- Amanda discussed chart showing number of recommended ground level pieces of equipment compared to elevated play components

Recommendations-Amanda recommended adding accessible swing to SHP. Seth will look into moving one of the two accessible swings from Stevens Park to SHP. Moving forward- Seth and Amanda will look into the recommended number of mats for SHP and Stevens Park.

Accessible bathrooms- Discussed need for universal changing stations. Stevens Park will be required to have since they will be new bathrooms. If renovating 4-H bathrooms at SHP they would be required per code also. Universal changing stations allow for privacy and a safe space for changing individuals. Exeter has one in town hall and is planning to add to pool bathrooms. Dover adding as well. Options include freestanding tables ranging in price from \$2000-4000 and wall mounted units \$6000-10000.

c. Great Bay Travel baseball team looking to host tournament at SHP-Discussed request. Seth to email field usage request form and follow up questions to Drew. Tournament is 9 days end of June.

d. Danielle Harmon award.

VII. Entered non-public session at 8:23pm.

VIII. Ended non-public session and adjourned meeting at 9:01pm.