

DRAFT

Town of Stratham



Stratham Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2026

- I. Call to order: At 7:01pm Kate called the meeting to order.
- II. Members in attendance: Kate Dardinski, Rebecca Waltz, Diane, Onacki, Casey Jurevic, Caitlin Middaugh, Ryan Guerette, Jessie Hook  
Guests: Seth Hickey Parks and Rec Director  
Absent: Allison Knab
- III. Consideration of minutes: Rebecca made a motion to approve December minutes as written. Kate seconded the motion. All in favor, approved.
- IV. Treasures report: Ryan provided update. He will be meeting with Seth and Zach to review financials from past year.
- V. Report from Stratham Parks & Rec Director
  - a. Teen Coordinator Position-\$20000 to hire someone post town meeting. Hopefully self-sustaining position within two years. Discussed past teen programing and potential ideas. Pats Peek, indoor climbing, two overnights at Kingdom trails last summer, adventure programing with CIT's.
  - b. Interns- Two lined up. May-Aug and second beginning in August. Potientail can help with teen program.
  - c. Thursday nights in the park- hopefully will not come out of Rec Revolving fund this year. \$250 a week.
  - d. TMAC-Ongoing Ebike conversations. Seth to meet with Police Chief about off leash dogs.
  - e. SHP-new roof for 4H barn, update bathrooms by barn.
  - f. Stevens Park-Contract signed with Emmanuel Engineering.

g. Programing

-Pats Peek-Going well, almost 100 kids.

-Summer Camp-Zach working on contracts. No soccer camp this year.

Summer camp to stay at SMS. Previous camp director and assistant director not returning. Plan to utilize park more this year, including barn. CIT program, will run similar to last year.

-Senior Programing-3 year analysis- tremendous growth. All programs going well. 24 people for lunch and learn this week.

h. New website- Went live Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. Will be easier to keep up to date.

i. Eco Counter- Seth provided updated numbers. Two at SHP-Jack Rabbit by kiosk on a post. Can determine pedestrian or bike. About 6500 counts for past month. 116,855 for past year. Second counter at bottom of Dead Fish trail-345 for last month. Looking to move Dead Fish counter to fire tower. Looking to make data available on website.

VI. New/Ongoing Business

a. Youth Sports-

-Baseball- Allstars can use fields for summer circuit league. Rebecca sent info to Baseball committee and Zach had provided as well. Scheduled to open end of January.

-Softball- Grades 1-6 will sign up through Exeter program, age based. Will try to keep Stratham kids together. Will pay to use Softball fields. Planning to have winter and spring softball clinics. Municipal center dugouts have been torn down. River Birch Builders will rebuild, aiming for late March start date. Paying for materials, but they are not charging for labor.

b. Other updates- Kate to step off Rec Commission. Need new chair.

VII. At 8pm Kate made motion to adjourn meeting, Jessie seconded. All in favor.

**Next meeting Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup>.**