

Town of Stratham



Stratham Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 17th, 2026

- I. Call to order: At 7:05 pm Allison called the meeting to order
- II. Members in attendance: Donna, Onacki, Cassey Jurevic, Caitlin Middaugh, Allison Knab, Rebecca Waltz, Jessie Hook
Guests: Seth Hickey Parks and Rec Director
Absent: Ryan Guerette
- III. Consideration of Minutes from previous meetings: Donna made a motion to approve January minutes as written. Jessie seconded the motion, all in favor, approved.
- IV. Treasurer's Report- Discussed report provided by Ryan. Summer camp largest income.
- V. Report of the Stratham Parks and Recreation Director
 - a. Pats Peak Ski Program- Went well, program is done for season.
 - b. Senior Programming- Going well, 50 people for St Patrick's Day event, most programs at capacity, marketing has gone well. Programming will slow for summer.
 - c. Teen Coordinator position-approved at town meeting.
 - d. Chair needed for Rec Commission: Role includes meeting with Seth to create agenda and emailing agenda to Karen Richards to be put on town website 24-48 hours before meeting.
 - e. SHP- Lots of mud with snow melting, some worry about long term damage on certain trails, will monitor and close trails if necessary. Beginning Summerfest planning (July 16th) -beginning Thursday night before moving softball game, Cole Emmanuel working on replacing bridge for Eagle Scout Project. Fire Tower restoration, 4-H Barn to get new roof, bathroom by 4-H Barn to be redone this year. Baseball field maintenance- contract for field work, more work will be done inhouse this year than in past due to new equipment.

- f. Food Trucks- Pizza and additional food trucks, will aim for 3 per night.
- g. Stevens Park- Nearing end of contract with Emmanuel Engineering. Select Board to review in April, goal is to have project done in parts, including adding septic.
- i. Programing/events-
 - Field hockey, ultimate frisbee, Food Truck festival May
 - Interns- Begin in May, will help with teen programing planning.
 - Summer Camp- Great interview for camp director, some openings still in camp. Hoping most of last years' staff returns.

VII. New/ Ongoing Business

- a. Youth Sports- Basketball- Regular season complete, travel ongoing; Rebecca updated basketball survey will email to Zach.
Baseball-Clinics just starting, good start to season.
- b. Spring Field Usage Requests- Exeter Junior Baseball & Softball League- Tues/Thursday afternoons at Municipal center. Exeter Youth Soccer Association request to use Stevens Park April-June asking for more time than they have in past. Athlete Factory LLC, Sabrinia Rivers asking to use Stevens Park in July-August for small group soccer clinics on half field. The fields are not in use for times she is asking.
Discussed what tiers groups fall into. Tier two for all groups
-Jessie made a motion to approve field use requests for Exeter Junior Baseball & Softball League, Exeter Youth Soccer Association, and Athlete Factory LLC. Alison seconded. All in favor, field use requests approved.
- d. Teen programming survey, data review- good responses, collected emails. Price point surveys identified is what parks and rec thinking. Summer and winter are seasons identified as need by survey. Surveys identified programing is wanted to keep kids busy, outdoors, safe, bully free comfortable environment for kids. Discussed reaching youth directly to see what programing they may want. Looking to begin programing this summer. Goal is within 2 years to make self-sustaining, have \$20,000 to start budget.
- e. Transition the Gmail account and the surveys- Rec Commission Gmail account to be monitored by Secretary. Primary use for account has been surveys.

VIII. Next Meeting Tuesday April 14th 2026

- IX. At 8pm Donna made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rebecca seconded, all in favor.