

## Stratham Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday March 7th, 2019

### Opening

The regular meeting of the Stratham Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:04pm on Thursday March 7th, 2019 in the Stratham Municipal Center by Jeff Simeone and seconded by Sean Burke.

### Present Members

Tracy Abbott, Jeff Simeone, Brian DeKoning, Sean Burke, Sean Kotkowski (and Parks & Recreation Director, Seth Hickey)

### Absent Members

Joe Lovejoy, April Mason

### Open Issues

- Current Budget Status, Revolving and General
  - Seth reviewed budget line items in Rec Revolving with the group
  - Coyote Club – awaiting invoices and Seth shared the growth of the program and need to look at additional staff/offerings
- Stevens Park update by Seth
  - Babe Ruth field being rented to Exeter Baseball to use for \$1k
  - Pickle Ball will be added this spring as a new program
    - Tennis, Baseball and Softball will all be returning for similar programs as in the past.
- Stratham Hill Park update by Seth
  - The ice rink will be shut down after this weekend due to warmer temperatures.
  - Baseball Field Construction is on-going
    - Seth working with the school to ensure that there is enough space for town baseball programs.
  - Food Truck Festival
    - Seth is having regular meetings with Exeter Chamber of Commerce
    - Cantrexe is maintaining a potential volunteer list for the event. Current need is ~40 people
    - 15 food trucks, 3 breweries, a winery and 2 bands have been confirmed for the May 4<sup>th</sup> event.
  - Electrical Issues at the park
    - Lost power at the Park Ranger house in December
    - No well/water at well house
      - Underground break was found in electrical and repaired
    - Overall usage is trending upwards at the park
- Youth Sports
  - Basketball has wrapped up for the season
    - Looking to set hard start/stop dates in the future to decrease gym time issues
  - Baseball and Softball
    - Registration is on-going

- Administration/Other
  - Summer Camp at SMS has doubled in size for the 4 day camp to 100 kids per week
  - The staff is currently at 15 to accommodate
  - Summer skills camps are full for almost all weeks
    - Added Cross Country running to the 2019 offerings
- Survey Needs Assessment
  - Seth has reached out to the Stratham Select Board for permission to send out community wide needs assessment survey
  - Created through Survey Monkey to look at what people use in town and what they see as priorities.
  - Survey will be distributed in May
- Dashboards
  - Seth provided a desire to share a “dashboard” format of information to the recreation committee
    - Discussions will be on-going
- Recreation Assistant Director Position
  - Seth is looking at a promotion for the current role
- 2019 Recreation Commission Meeting Schedule
  - July and August possibly waived
  - Next meetings 3/27, 4/18, 5/15 at the Stratham Municipal Center
- Volunteers on Sports Boards
  - Discussion around if boards should only allow voting members to be Stratham town residents
  - Follow-up discussion needed to review Bi-Laws

**Meeting ended at 8:32pm**

**Agenda for Next Meeting**

Agenda will be provided prior to the next meeting

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm by Jeff Simeone and seconded by Sean Burke.

Minutes submitted by:      Jeff Simeone

Approved by:                      Name