

New London
Recreation Commission Meeting
Whipple Town Hall
January 6, 2014
5:00pm

Members present: Jason Stadler (Chair), Alison McLean, Laura Lorio, Janet Kidder
Members Absent: Laura James

Staff and Public Present: Scott Blewitt (Recreation Director), Kim Hallquist (Town Administrator) and Tim McCullough (NLOC)

IT WAS MOVED (Laura Lorio) AND SECONDED (Alison McLean) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2013. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

New Business

Skating Rink:

Mr. Blewitt noted the condition of the skating rink was in good shape, until warm weather softened the ice. It has been a challenge keeping people from skating when the ice is soft. However, the recent rain coupled with freezing temperatures should make the surface suitable for skating. Mr. Stadler has helped with the rink, and, Mr. McCullough noted that he would be happy to help with the rink as well. However, it was determined that hiring one or two individuals (\$10.00/hour) to assist Mr. Blewitt with the rink, when he has commitments elsewhere, would be prudent to keep the rink in good condition. Mr. Blewitt will post a help-wanted sign at the rink, and in a few other locations. Another issue with the rink, has been getting water from the New London Inn (it is not always feasible to access the water spigot inside the Inn, and there are problems running the hose across the driveway). Mr. Lee (Highway Department) will install a water line at the rink next summer.

Cross-Country Trail:

Mr. Blewitt asked if anyone knew how the snowmobile is transported to the trails behind the old middle school in order to do the grooming. It was suggested that Mr. Blewitt contact a member of the Conservation Commission for information concerning the trails.

New London Winter Carnival - 2014:

Mr. Blewitt distributed the itinerary for the winter carnival, with activities starting on Monday, January 27th. Mr. Blewitt requested \$2000.00 be removed from the Revolving Fund to pay for fireworks at the conclusion of the activities on Saturday, February 1st at 6:00 pm. Atlas Fireworks will handle the show (Atlas' insurance will be in place). The show will last approximately 8 minutes. The display will take place behind the old middle school in the field. Spectators will be able to park and observe the display from the parking lot. Mr. Blewitt has

received permission from the school district to use the field, and, has notified the Outing Club of this event. He has also contacted Fire Chief Lyon and is awaiting a call back.

IT WAS MOVED (Jason Stadler) AND SECONDED (Laura Lorio) to expend \$2000.00 FROM THE REVOLVING FUND TO PAY FOR THE FIREWORKS' DISPLAY ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2014. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Blewitt is still trying to obtain help with grooming the town green for events taking place there (ski joring exhibition, dog sledding demo, etc.). Mr. Blewitt noted that perhaps a sign acknowledging the company that helps with the grooming, be placed on the common during winter carnival. It was agreed it would be worthwhile to thank a company in this manner.

Revolving Fund:

Mr. Blewitt presented a chart with the average amounts in the Revolving Fund over the last ten years as of December 31st. Historically, the amount has been 25-30 thousand dollars. It was agreed the amount kept in the fund should be in the range of 20-25 thousand dollars. This will allow for purchases of tickets to sporting events and unanticipated needs. It was noted that one of the shallow floating docks (Elkins) will need to be replaced (Central Lakes Docks will submit an estimate), and, payment could be made from the Revolving Fund. Mr. Blewitt will generate a list of other equipment needs for future review.

Budget Update:

Mr. Blewitt noted that although the salaries for lakefront staff is over budget and staff will have to be paid through June, there is enough money in the budget from other line items (advertising, etc.) that will allow salaries to be paid without going over the FY2014 budget.

MISC.

Mr. Blewitt noted that mechanically the recreation van is in very good shape (approximately 43k miles), but it does need body work. It was suggested that body work be done on the van and then the recreation seal affixed to it.

There have been some requests for a father/daughter dance that would take place at the Town Hall (possibly in June). Mr. Blewitt will see if there is enough interest to host this type of event.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at Whipple Town Hall.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet R. Kidder
Town of New London