

TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NH
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
WHIPPLE TOWN HALL
OCTOBER 7, 2014

PRESENT: Laura James, Laura Lorio, Janet Kidder and Scott Blewitt

Casey Biuso requested selling baked goods for the Wilmot Learning Place at the annual Easter Egg Hunt on the New London Town Common. They will sell coffee, baked goods and egg sandwiches. They have held this fund raiser for the last three years, and have changed the date to avoid conflicting with the Easter Egg Hunt. They are covered by insurance through the Wilmot Learning Place. They would make a donation or contribution to the Recreation Department. Everyone felt this was a good idea, especially the coffee. Janet will check with Kim Hallquist about allowing this sale during the Easter Egg Hunt.

The commission has decided not to recommend bike safety signs as this time, since the Selectmen were ambivalent and there are so many signs on the roads.

Scott reported on the plans for the Chad Denning Memorial Walk to School Day (Wednesday, October 22) to the New London Elementary School. Students will be dropped off at the college and walk down Gould Road. Chaperones will be at various other locations to walk students to school. Colby-Sawyer College and the police department are working with the Recreation Department to coordinate this walk. All students participating in the walk to school will be given a "stress" ball (either football, baseball, basketball or beach ball), with New London Recreation Department inscribed on the ball. College students and parents will also be assisting.

Scott needs more candy for Halloween. Colby-Sawyer Players will portray ghosts/spooks and the theme is "Haunted Fairy Tales." There will be different times for younger and older children to go through the haunted area. The New London Outing Club will also have a movie that night for the younger children.

Quite a few businesses, homes and town buildings now have pumpkin people on their property. There have been some creative displays. Also, the Great Pumpkin Race will take place on Friday, October 17th.

The warming hut is almost completed (insulation, new door, etc.).

Scott will present his recommendations for the capital improvement plan this week. He is asking that \$10,000.00 be set aside yearly for a van (5-6 years). Money for a community center, money for non-motorized transportation areas (other than sidewalks) and will speak to Richard Lee about grading the Town Common to make it more level. This has been a concern with all the different events hosted on the common.

Matt Grimes is reviewing the work that will need to be done at the Elkins Bathrooms (handicap accessibility, etc.). There is approximately \$73,000.00 in the capital reserve fund, which can be used for this work.

Scott will speak to Kim Hallquist about a warrant article allowing the Recreation Department to accept financial donations/gifts for the Revolving Fund.

Currently, 41.8% of the budget has been used in this fiscal year. The Recreation Department has \$8,700.00 to open the beaches next spring. A much better figure to accomplish all that will need to be done.

The money used for the event honoring Chad Denning will be taken from the Revolving Fund. The amount is approximately \$816.00. The event was well attended and appreciated by Chad's family.

Laura Lorio noted there is a committee that is looking into establishing a memorial for Chad.

Scott is looking into resurrecting the Festival of Trees. It had been a fundraiser for the Hospital in the past.

Scott has given the College Outing Club permission to use the town's boats (located at Bucklin Beach) during the fall and spring, when they are not being used for lessons.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet R. Kidder