

Town of New London
Recreation Commission Meeting
Whipple Town Hall
May 6, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laura James, Alison McLean, Laura Lorio, Janet Kidder, and Scott Blewitt, Recreation Direction

Also Present: Carter Bascom (NLOC), Alison Vernon, Paula Schoonmaker (New London Cub Scouts) and Cicely Markoff

Paula gave an overview of the New London Cub Scout Troop. Said group will be refurbishing the warming hut at the skating rink. The boys range in age from kindergarten through 5th grade. There are 22 boys in the troop (the group has some residents of Sunapee). Parents and scout leaders will direct the scouts on the work to be done, which includes scraping and painting the building. Scott will create a wish list of additional work that needs to be done. The funds for the materials will be paid for out of the revolving fund and Scott will pick up all materials that are needed. Paula noted that the cub scouts want to participate with the Recreation Department on programs and want to help with Winter Carnival.

A motion was made and seconded to spend no more than \$500.00 on materials for the warming hut, and the money will be expended from the Revolving Fund. The motion was unanimously approved.

Alison Vernon noted the need for space to conduct various art programs. The building on Main Street owned by Ellen's Interiors is about to become available for rent. Alison would like to see a School for the Arts housed in this building, which is approximately 16 by 24 feet. The rent is \$700.00/month and requires a long-term lease. Whipple Memorial Hall is used by other groups (specifically the Barn Players for rehearsals) throughout the spring and summer, and, therefore, is unavailable for many programs that Alison thinks would be popular. Carter was asked if there is space available at the outing club offices and he said the outing club has the same need for space. Laura requested follow-up with Carter for possible collaboration on the two organization working together to locate space for arts programming. Janet noted that the Town would probably not want to enter into a long-term lease, and, that Alison should make her request known to the selectmen. Members present thanked Alison for her suggestion and the research she has done to support it.

Scott noted that Pam Sanborn is retiring from Colby-Sawyer College and upon retirement will run a boot camp and couch to 5k through the Recreation Department.

Scott has contacted Byron's and Clayton Miller about the cost of pumping the septic system at Bucklin Beach (usually 10 times/summer). Byron's estimate was \$250.00 per time and Miller's was \$175.00 per time. Scott will follow up with Miller's to make sure that the estimate is for the same work that Byron quoted, and then accept the Miller quote if it is. Also, there have been requests for an outdoor shower at Elkins, and Scott will talk with Miller's about the feasibility of installing one. It was noted that the bathrooms at Elkins are not ADA compliant. Scott will check with some contractors and get an estimate for making the bathrooms compliant.

Scott would like to hire Renee Forcier soon in order to help with the summer scheduling and other office work, which she has done in the past. Renee will give swimming lessons when those begin. Scott will talk with Kim about using some of the Revolving Fund to pay Renee's salary.

Donations have been received from Hypotherm of \$350.00 for the Disc Golf Camp; \$260.00 from Deb Pasculano towards day camp scholarships; \$500.00 from Lake Sunapee Bank for day camp shirts, also, Alison and Mark Vernon have donated a Sunfish. Colby-Sawyer College is letting the Recreation Department use their track for free. Mark Vernon and Ed Rehor will be the coaches for track programs.

Scott is looking into changing the computer program from RecTrack to RecDesk. RecTrack costs \$3400.00/year and it is not quite the right program for the department. The initial start-up cost for the program was \$18,000-\$20,000 and was paid for by the Outing Club. The program is six years old. Carter agreed that it is not the best program for the Outing Club either, and, he is looking at RecDesk as well. RecDesk is approximately \$1,000 a year less, with no initial installment fee. Training is free. Scott has talked with a department in another town that uses it and they were happy with the program. Scott will continue to do some research in order to make a decision before July 1st when the annual payment is due to RecTrack.

Scott was only able to obtain one estimate for the rust repair on the van (Lauridsen Auto Body declined as they do not do extensive rust work, and Ed Andersen was not able to give an estimate). Since the van is needed for the summer, the board agreed to have the work done by Patten's Auto Body.

A motion was made and seconded to have Patten's Auto Body perform the body work on the van for \$5,429.00, said money to be expended from the Revolving Fund. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 pm.
Respectfully submitted, Janet R. Kidder