

TOWN OF NEW LONDON
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

PRESENT: Lyndsay Lund, Laura Lorio, Casey Biuso, Lori Lavolpicelo, Janet Kidder and Scott Blewitt, Recreation Director

The Minutes of August, 2016 were approved.

Scott outlined the following future events: Touch a Truck on September 17th at the New London Shopping Center (special trucks and vehicles are welcome); Return of the Pumpkin People contest (October 1 – October 31) – the judges need to be selected (Lyndsay will post the contest on Facebook, as well as take pictures of entries); the Great Pumpkin Race will take place on October 14th on Gould Road at 5:30 pm; the Haunted Halloween walk will be held the same night as Trick or Treating on October 31st.; adult drop in basketball is at the Kearsarge Regional Middle School.

There was some discussion about adding another skating rink, but it was felt that there is not a suitable site, nor does Scott have the staff to maintain two rinks. Justin is working on locating poles for fencing around the skating rink.

The Chili Fest will be October 22 at the New London Historical Society. Scott is asking non-profits to participate. The event is called “Party with a Purpose” and the attendance fees will be divided among the participants. It will be from 4-7pm.

The beaches have been closed for the season, but the bathrooms will remain open through Columbus Day. It was recommended to leave the lines and docks in the water until Columbus Day, and to ask volunteers to help bring them in (the staff does this, but has left by Columbus Day).

Hannah did a great job overseeing staff at both beaches. The bathrooms were clean and well maintained, and overall programs went well.

Scott is meeting with a representative of Bonin Architecture to look at Bucklin Beach for recommendations on erosion control.

Lake Sunapee Yacht Club is selling some of their fleet of 320's, and wondered if the town would be interested. The Commission agreed that we do not have storage space, nor adequate staff to teach children how to sail these boats.

Lyndsay noted that adequate storage is needed for the boards, equipment, etc. and asked Scott to research storage sheds for both beaches.

Scott is trying to locate a garage for winter storage of the van.

Laura mentioned some land that is available on South Pleasant Street that would be a good addition to the town's trail system. Since the Recreation Commission is still reviewing the Power Line Trail, and, no recommendation has been made on that, the timing is not good presently to entertain another acquisition.

Regarding the 2018 budget, it was recommended that Scott increase the budget for staff and bonuses; determine the cost of sheds and possibly put that amount in the budget; and, include the lease payments for the van.

Scott noted that they need to have a Winter Carnival meeting soon. Lori has agreed to be on that committee.

Also, the Center for the Arts has hired an office administrator who will collaborate with Scott.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet R. Kidder