

TOWN OF NEW LONDON
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
August 4, 2015

PRESENT: Laura Lorio, Jason Stadler, Lyndsay Lund, Casey Biuso, Janet Kidder and Scott Blewit, Recreation Director

The Minutes of July 2, 2015 were approved.

Scott reviewed the events the Recreation Department organized during Hospital Days. All the activities were well attended and enjoyed. Some of the highlights were the mechanical bull, tricycle race and scavenger hunt. The new route for the triathlon was a success, but next year the homes on the route should be notified in advance of any road closings.

The first winter carnival meeting will be held in September.

There was a lengthy discussion of the parking area at the Elkins beach. On busy days, it seems people park randomly (most of the parking area is gravel and cannot be striped), resulting in fewer parking spaces. However, it is such a short season for beach activity, it was acknowledged that not a great deal can be done on very hot days. Janet will speak to Chief Andersen about increased monitoring of the beach areas, especially on high volume days.

There was a review of the Revolving Fund balance.

Scott reported some of the fall programs in the planning stage are: Touch a Truck (9/12/15); Return of the Pumpkin People contest (October 1st – October 31st); Great Pumpkin Race; youth flag football; archery; adult drop-in basketball. The Haunted Halloween Walk will take place on October 31st, and Colby-Sawyer students will once again participate in this event.

Regarding the liner for the ice skating rink, Scott has purchased a less expensive liner, which will need to be replaced every two – three years. A more expensive liner can be damaged easily as well, and does not warrant the added cost.

There is a proposal for an aqua boat class at Bucklin Beach. Elizabeth Murphy will conduct the class and had planned to charge \$25.00 for a 45 minute class. There was concern this fee was too high.

Hilary Lyon will offer an adult yoga class and Val Blachely will run a children's yoga class.

The Recreation Department will continue holding pre-school play time from 9:00-10:30 am.

Art classes will be scheduled for all age groups.

It was noted that Scott did an excellent job organizing the Hospital Day events. Scott pointed out that the Chamber of Commerce and the Recreation Department have worked well together on projects. There is good collaboration between groups.

The next meeting will be at 5:00 pm on September 8, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet R. Kidder