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GRAFTON RECREATION COMMISSION

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GRAFTON RECREATION COMMISSION

July 10, 2023

A Recreation Commission meeting was held on **July 10, 2023** at the Recreation Office. Commissioners in attendance were Kristen Belanger, Stephen Crowley, Kayla Cushman, and Adriane Mampe. Cody Herd and Mary Sevon were also in attendance. Other attendees included Dan Fitzgerald (11 Patricia Drive), Riley O'Brien (5 Fieldstone Court), Alex Inciong (9 Bicknell Road), and Jack McCaffrey (18 Barbara Jean Street).

1. **Call to Order:** Ms. Belanger called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm with a roll call.
2. **Review of Bills:** Bills from June were reviewed. A discussion regarding the Silver Lake Beach weed treatment versus a weed barrier occurred. SLB transitioned away from weed barriers 3 years ago and the lake gets treated prior to the season with more effective results.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Crowley motioned to approve the minutes from the June 7th meeting. Ms. Mampe seconded. All approved. Motion passed 4-0. It was recommended that the subject of Food Trucks be added to future agendas until we have formulated a policy.
4. **Correspondence:**

Fun Run (in conjunction with the Senior Center) was discussed. It would allow younger children the opportunity to run. The start would begin before the Gazebo Race and require an entirely different set of volunteers to staff it. In the past we have had a 100m for the 3-4 year olds, a 400m for the 5-10 year olds and a 800m for the older kids. In the past it was run by a gym teacher at NSES who started with stretches and every kid received medals. The teacher no longer works in the Grafton School System. It was a fun family event. The coordinator needs to contact the Senior Center for help.

The Class of 2025 has approached the Recreation Department about concessions at Recreation events. They were thinking about baked goods, snack items and face painting. The earned funds would be used for Prom and Graduation. They have tents and volunteers. They were hoping to participate in Movie Nights, Concerts on the Common, Fall events, and Frosty Stops. It was

commented that the baked goods might be difficult due to SafeServe requirements, and the group would need to check with the Board of Health. In exchange, the Class of 2025 would be promoting the events through their Instagram accounts and providing volunteers when the Rec Department needs them. The Commission decided to allow them to move forward. They are aiming for the 2nd Concert on the Common on July 19th. Mr. Herd did remind the Commission that we already have relationships with other groups, such as the Girl Scouts for face painting at the Halloween event and the Grafton Celebrates the Holidays. We will keep the current relationships and add the Class of 2025 when an opening is available.

5. **ARPA Funding Update:** There are no updates on the Masterplan. Pickleball was discussed later in the meeting.

6. **Commissioner Reports – CPC, OSRP, Programming/Events:**

CPC: Ms. Belanger did not attend the CPC meeting.

OSRP: The document outlining the scope of the Trail Committee was approved by the Selectboard. No members of the Trail Committee have been identified yet.

Programming: Current events happening are Paddling Nights and Concerts on the Common.

7. **Director Report:**

The Pickleball plan was discussed with the Commission. The office shared the plans for signage on the outside of the athletic courts and signage for outside the pickleball courts. Currently we are waiting for the Sealcoating company to paint the lines on the courts. They require 5 days of no rain in the forecast to complete the project. The agreement to use the courts in the Municipal Center will continue as long as the building is open. Ms. Mampe commented on the hole in the asphalt. It will be brought to the attention of the Sealcoating company for repair.

The Municipal Center will be closed to the public for the next two weeks (7/17 through 7/28/23) due to resurfacing of the parking lot. Mr. Herd has made arrangements with the library to have a temporary office in the library so we can continue to service walk in business. The phones will either be forwarded or have a temporary message.

The Fall Plan regarding combining the Scarecrow and Pumpkin Painting into a one-day “Fall Fest” was next discussed. This would allow us to add food trucks and music to make the day a bigger event. The pros included requiring less paid staff and add more volunteers, freeing up a weekend day in an already busy calendar, and allowing staff to have a free weekend in a busy month of events. Since the combined event will require us to pay for the pumpkins and hay from Houlden Farm, it will cost more than previous years. However, there will be enough savings from staffing requirements to offset the new costs. A motion was made by Ms. Cushman to consolidate the events and seconded by Ms. Mampe. The vote was 4-0 to consolidate.

The Recreation Department brought up the requirement for volunteers at more events. Ms. Belanger asked for a list of specific tasks that the volunteers will be responsible for completing for each event as well as the number of volunteers that are needed. The Class of 2025 is also willing to provide volunteers as well. It was suggested that we contact previous Commissioners for volunteers as well.

Past/Future Events were shared. Big Truck Day was a great success despite the rain and disagreeable neighbor. Movie Night was not as highly attended as the past. This was most likely due to advertising that could have been better.

The fishing clinic went extremely well. We hope to have them back multiple times per year. It should be promoted as a family event in the future.

The hiring process for the new director was discussed. We are looking to find out their experience with adult programs, children's programs, and other areas. The lack of a commissioner on the interview committee was a bad oversight as the new Director needs to work with the Commission. It was a big miss and not appreciated. Ms. Belanger will follow up.

8. At 8:56 pm Mr. Crowley made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Cushman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously 4-0. The next meeting will be on August 7, 2023 in person.