

Recreation meeting notes February 4th 2019

Members Present: Michelle Boyden , Hillary Hoag , Kerri O'Halloran Others: Heather Rodriguez

Suzanne Dodge has officially resigned from the committee, however is still willing to help with soccer in the fall. Kerri also noted the town website has members listed who are not members, and Heathers home phone number is listed. Heather suggested adding a link to the Johnson Recreation website, and the coordinator will be responsible to update information. Heather also requested her home phone number be removed.

Baseball/Softball registration is open and off to a slow start for families registering. Most wait until the last few day and we do expect it to pick up.

Hillary and Bill went to storage to look at equipment needs. We are in need of new catcher's equipment. They are going to go back next weekend when they have more tie and do a complete inventory of items needed. Michelle will look at what the softball needs are, and send to Hillary.

Hillary asked if it was appropriate for her to order equipment on Amazon because it is less than both of our local suppliers. The committee agreed and Hillary will order and get reimbursed.

Heather and Hillary will review uniform needs after registration is closed. Heather will create the PO for all uniforms and get them ordered.

Heather was approached over the past weekend by Heather Perkins of Vermont Hoopsters AAU about JES gym usage and holding a basketball tournament April, 13-14 2019. Heather explained the process and gave her the contacts at JES. Johnson Recreation does have the gym booked on April 14th 2019 for softball/baseball practices. The recreation committee felt releasing their gym times on the 14th was a great opportunity for the players and area businesses, as it tournament has the potential to bring hundreds of people to the area in one weekend.

Heather informed us she was contacted by JES about a scheduling conflict with the gym on 3/9/19.

Heather will work with the futsal coaches to reschedule. Heather has researched the cost of futsal goals and communicated with the futsal coaches to replace the homemade ones we have. The cost is approx. 770.00 per goal and 200.00 shipping. The committee approved the purchase of two futsal goals from Bill Pence, Champlain Valley Sports.

The recreation Coordinator position is going up for vote at town meeting. The article will be for 25 hours per week, 45,000 including prorated benefits. Johnson Recreation will take the imitative in education the voter of the needs for a recreation position. The select board meeting notes dated January 28, 2019 suggests the committee has 8-10 people present at town meeting to advocate and educate the community as to why the position is needed. The committee has concerns they will not be able to get that number of people to take the day off from work to go to town meeting. The committee also has concerns about the continuance of Johnson Recreation in the future without administrative support.

Word in the community is the position will not pass the floor, it's too much of a jump from very little nothing to 45K, and maybe it should have been in smaller incremental amount. The majority of community members do not know the amount of time that goes into providing these programs to our youth. Committee members asked why this was not a ballot vote, they did not know. The committee reviewed the growth of programs and participation. In 2007 there was a rec coordinator position for 16 hours per week. In 2007 there we 28 kids in the ski and ride program at Smuggs. In 2018 there were 98 kids and in 2019 we have 87, 30 adult volunteers at Stowe Mountain. Since 2011 Johnson

Recreation has grown from 3 soccer and basketball teams to 7 each. They have created additional programs such as gymnastics, and futsal. They typically have 60-100 kids in various different programs during the year.

Johnson Recreation has decided to move towards a five seat committee in order to comply with Vermont open meeting laws, and meet quorum. All three committee members votes and passed.

Heather reached out to Nat and Brian regarding the two grants we were hoping to receive for the softball field. Nat indicated he had not completed the VT Rise grant and would not have the time to do so. The Green Mountain Fund Grant has not been done at this point either. Heather met with Brian last week to get some guidance on writing a grant and will do her best to get them in. Keri spoke to Jessica Bickford and Jessica agreed to help Heather with the VT Rise grant. Heather will reach out to her and hopefully have it complete by 2/15/19 the grant deadline.

The committee quickly reviewed the current budget and moving forward thinks it would be a good idea to get monthly reports so they know where they stand. Heather noticed a few expenses not posted at this time, which she has talked to both Rosemary and Brian about. She expects to see them on the reports next month. After town meeting the committee will ask Rosemary if monthly reports can be provided easily.

Basketball is in full swing, and going well. Coaches are getting used to the new protocol of following the districts lead when canceling practice or games. Basketball was budgeted for 2050.00 in revenue and to date registration and tournament revenue is approx. 3020.94 with 2297 in expenses, however all expenses are not in yet. We know we will have expenses for refs. We expect ref payments this year will be higher than in the past. The scheduling was not done this year by coached it was done by MYB (Morrisville Youth Basketball) Johnson was scheduled to hold A LOT of home game which made those ref payments go up.

Heather indicated Ski and Ride is going very well this season, Agata is doing a nice job on the mountain. Heather's goal was to not be active on the mountain and she has been able to walk away 100%. Heather did mention the start of the program came with some challenges as to who was going to do what, between her and Agata. Heather made the suggestion that the administrative work be done by one person, (ie working with the mountain regarding program dates and costs. Negotiating lease pricing with the ski shops, and holding registration). The mountain coordinator would take over after registration closes. They would be responsible to organize the mountain chaperones, created rosters and communicate weekly with the mountain about who will be there and not be there.

Heather is suggesting we shorten registration timeframes to make it easier to balance out the financial reports on the back end. By shortening the timeframes it will lessen the amount of work Rosemary has to do. Heather suggested a 7 day window, the committee like 14 days. A compromise was made and registrations will be 10 days. The committee also agreed it would benefit the community if registration dates were posted well in advance so everyone is aware of them.

Heather presented a list of ongoing items and projects for the committee and the rec coordinator if passed at town meeting

Ceiling in Rec storage
Extra money and nonresident fees

Policy review and updates
Coaches Handbook
Standard check list form for programs
Finishing up Spring Projects
Field usage for spring soccer, moving the 5/6 field out of the softball field
Relocation of Soccer field
Complete lining the fields with boulders
3 Access Gates at Mill Park, possible 4

It was discussed the committee will meet on Monday March 11, 2019 after town meeting and decides the future of the committee.