

Johnson Recreation Meeting Minutes
July 2, 2018

Members Present: Agata Bal, Michelle Boyden, Hilary Hoag, Laura Whitehill, Heather Rodriguez, Kerri O'Halloran, Nat Kinney

Non-Members Present: Tim Sullivan, Denise Krause, Brian Story

We voted unanimously to approve the August meeting minutes.

Archery Update:

Denise gave an overview of the archery program and plans to run an autumn archery session. We agreed that all registrations will be done via Sports Engine from now forward. It takes 5 days for Sports Engine to setup registration, from the time we send them the program information.

There was general discussion on how we could craft a scholarship program to assist families who are unable to pay registration fees. We've found that surrounding towns do not have official policies for waiving registration fees. We want scholarships to be available when needed but do not want to be taken advantage of by people who are able to pay. We were unable to agree on specific criteria for giving out scholarships. But we agreed that anyone receiving scholarships should fill out the request form and the form needs to remain on file with Johnson Recreation.

Soccer Tournament and Field Prep:

The 5/6 soccer tournament is on October 13 in Mill Park. Many volunteers are needed for field prep.

It was noted that nobody on the committee has ever been primarily responsible for running the annual event. And we don't know all of the steps needed to run a tournament. Most recently, Beth Foy managed it. We believe that she documented a lot of what she did and uploaded that information to DropBox. We will get those documents and discuss at the October meeting.

It was stated that we need to rope off the lawns of the homes just outside of Mill Park so that people don't park there.

Pavillion Building, Baseball Fences and Checkerberry Field.

Brian will follow up with D.B. Inc regarding repair of the Pavillion Building.

Heather noted that it's good to have the rocks in place to prevent vehicles from getting on the Mill Park ballfields but we need a few of them removed in strategic places for access for emergency vehicles and maintenance. Heather will mark the rocks she would like removed. Brian will organize their removal with the Public Works Dept.

Eric Osgood asked Nat via email why we continue to mow Checkerberry field as it's almost never used. A few committee members noted that they'd like to use it more but there is usually someone parked on the right of way access and there is also a dog that barks at people who use the access. The committee would like to designate that field for lacrosse teams. We asked Brian to talk to the person who parks there and who has the dog.

We would like to have the Public Works Dept remove the falling baseball backstops in Checkerberry and Legion Field. Brian agreed they could do that, as time permits.

Update on website, registration policy, background checks:

Registration will be conducted online only from now on. (via Sports Engine)

The committee would like all coaches to go through background checks. Nat stated that it's an easy process. The State of Vermont gives us access to a website that will do an instant background check. Name and driver's license number is required. Brian Story agreed that it's best if Town Staff members do the background checks, it's not a good thing for volunteers to have to do. Heather will get him the web address and instructions for how to do the checks.

Basketball:

We briefly addressed the coming basketball season. The registration cost is to be determined. We need uniforms. We need to purchase a 'ball cage' so that we can lock up our basketballs in the JES gym. Laura is recruiting coaches.