2/7/24
approved

Town of Northfield Public Meeting – Minutes

Name of the board, committee, or commission: Northfield Recreation Commission (NRC)

Location of meeting (physical address): 69 Main Street, Northfield MA 01360

Date and time the meeting convened: January 3rd 2024 at 6:30pm

Name and contact info of the person filling out this form: Stacy Bond, reccom@northfieldma.gov

Members present: 1) Josh Roman (JR) - Chair; 2) Bob Emberley (BE) – Vice Chair; 3) Chelsea Depault (CD) – Treasurer; and 4) Laura Fries (LF) Pool Advisory Group Coordinator

Members absent: 1) Courtney Lawler (CL)

Others in attendance: 1) Stacy Bond (SB) - NRC Secretary/Director

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1) Call to Order and determine quorum
    A) 6:36pm Chair (JR) called to order and quorum present.
2) Citizen Input/Guests
    A) None
3) Review and approval of minutes from Dec 6th, 2023.
    A) Motion made to approve minutes by JR, seconded by CD, vote all yea.
4) Chairs Report
    A) Nothing extra.
5) Umass Hockey/Basketball group trips
    A) Hockey flyer will be posted on social media and in email blast.
6) Pickleball
    A) Going well. No issue with increased fee as it's still quite reasonable. Northfield, Leyden and Bernardston (school district) residents get a $20 discount. Capped the signups to 50 people and we are already half way there!
7) Adult exercise class update
    A) Have some new sign ups for the new year!
8) Pool Advisory Group
    A) YMCA had to cancel family swim due to sick lifeguards. Will try the Turners Falls pool in Feb.
9) Treasurer's Report
    A) About $11,000 in revolving. Discussed line items.
10) 2024 budget
    A) This coming Monday is Finance Committee meeting with NRC to go over budget for FY 25.
11) CPC Update
    A) BE reports that project applications are due in soon. LF asked for another official support for the PTO to attempt to put in a pavilion behind the elementary school (*NES had already supported this a few years ago during the last attempt). A motion was made by BE to officially support the building of the pavilion for the CPC. Seconded by CD, vote all yea.
12) Outdoor Pickleball court

A) BE asked the committee if they would officially support an application to the CPC for outdoor Pickleball court(s) put in by the Community Bible Church on their property, with the knowledge that they could likely be used by the NRC. JR made the motion, seconded by CD, vote all yea.

13) Adult pickup basketball

A) Begins tonight.

14) Latin Dancing

A) SB received flyer today to start advertising.

15) Basketball update

A) Lots of moving parts to manage, but overall on track and going well.

16) Cheerleading update

A) Still doing cheer despite the low numbers. Going well.

17) Indoor Soccer update

A) The NRC decided to work with Gill Recreation to offer the indoor soccer proposed. They are practicing at NES Sundays and Tuesdays and there are Northfield kids participating. No cost. Nice to offer something to those not interested in basketball or cheer.

18) Summer Program 2024

A) On track for open registrations in March.

19) Adult softball team

A) SB will start trying to gather players to see if we can get a team together for the Montague Adult Co-Ed Softball league. First or second Thursday of April is captains meeting. Games are umpired, are typically on Mondays and Thursdays, and run May to Aug. $650 for the season. Team doesn't need to be only Northfield residents. Need approx. 15-20 players per team.

B) NRC will offer signups at $50 per player to include the fee for the team plus t-shirts.

20) New Program ideas

A) If we ever get snow, thinking of putting together a sledding outing with hot chocolate, etc.

B) Residents have mentioned having the symphony at the golf course like the 350th each year as well.

C) *Still* looking for ideas for teens. JR had idea to ask any local teens if they want to come to a meeting to discuss some options with us.

D) Lectures?

E) Adult indoor soccer?

21) Directors Report

A) Nothing extra.

22) Yearly dinner/dance

A) SB has been gathering info, but it's quite costly to do similar to what 350th did. Maybe residents would be interested in a "block party" in August with food trucks? This was suggested by BE and the rest of the committee thought it would be a good idea! SB will look further into this idea.

23) Full time director position

A) Fin Com meeting is on Monday at 6:30pm in the Selectboard room.

24) Topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance

A) Resident, Pam Eldridge, asked about a defibrillator nearby the gym at NES. SB will check and get back to her.

25) Scheduled next meeting for February 7th, 2024 at 6:30pm at Town Hall

23) Adjourn

A) A motion was made to adjourn at 7:39pm by JR, seconded by LF, vote all yea.

*Note: NES = Northfield Elementary School