

**Northfield Recreation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday July 6, 2022 @ 6:30pm**

**I. Call to Order**

- A. 6:30pm Chair (SB) called to order and quorum determined  
B. Present: Stacy Bond (SB)— Chair; Bob Emberley (BE); Josh Roman (JR); Courtney Lawler (CL); Chelsea Depault (CP)

**II. Minutes**

- A. 6/1/2022 meeting minutes reviewed, corrected, and approved. **JR Motion CL second Unanimous**

**III. Citizen/guest input**

- A. Laura Rooney (LR) presented idea for a weekly adult exercise class. After discussion and questions the following details/format for the class were approved
- LR will lead a weekly pilates/yoga class “yogalates” (1 hour) at Northfield Elementary (NES)
  - LR has liability insurance as an independent contractor/instructor
  - Start date to be determined. **SB will check with NES on availability of gym and/or cafeteria area.**
  - Class will be at 6pm
  - Rec Comm will pay LR \$35 per night/class. Participants will pay Rec Comm \$5 a class
  - **SB will set up means for LR to get into NES building/gym and the manner of collecting the class fees.** LR will drop off the collected fees in the town office drop off box each evening in envelope marked “Recreation Commission / Stacy Bond”
  - SB asked LR to provide an invoice for charges
- B. BE brought a request from Al Stone. He was asking for the weight/fitness room at PVRs to be opened again this fall as it was before COVID. **SB will contact Al and work out the details.**

**II. CPC Report**

- A. BE re-appointed for another year as Rec Comm liaison to the CPC. **CL Motion JR second Unanimous**
- B. BE had nothing to report from CPC as the CPC is not meeting until August

**IV. Chair's report & Treasurer's Report**

- SB gave various updates (Note: SB is handling Treasure duties until CP can be sworn in by town clerk. **CP will try to connect with town clerk.**
- (1) SB explained the funding that is available for the Rec Comm each year. Some of the funds will need to be spent by this month (July) or they will no longer be available. **Because of this SB is making various purchases and improvements while the funds are available.** These include softball equipment; painting projects.
- (2) SB presented the new Rec Comm logo design choices. A logo design was approved. Initial costs for this design were \$115
- (3) **SB will talk to NES regarding the parameters of the mowing and trimming responsibilities of the Rec Comm as contracted with Snow's Landscaping.** The Rec Comm covers the cost of basic/weekly mowing and trimming, not other landscaping and special lawn preparations for NES events like graduation. NES will need to use their own funding for this.
- (4) There will be a PTO yard sale on Saturday July 30th. **JR will sort through equipment to see if there is anything that can be sold and/or given away. Any funds received will go to Rec Comm.**
- (5) SB distributed a calendar of Rec Comm events. **The plan is to develop a calendar to promote events and registration dates.** This will help the community/public know what events the Rec



Comm is doing and also help us with planning. SB visited with Seth from Vernon Rec to get his input on events and dates for the various sports leagues.

(6) It was noted that Vernon Rec has two full time recreation staff members. The Northfield Rec Comm organization would be greatly improved with paid staff. Bringing on a director with increasing hours is a step in the right direction. **A case needs to be made to the finance committee to increase funding for more hours for the rec comm director. This is especially crucial as we work on re-developing the summer day camp program.**

(7) Kiwanis Park — Appraisal had been done by Kim Levitch. **Town manager and the open space committee are working with SB to get everything in order in time for a grant approval to provide funding for the purchase of the park.**

(8) **SB is working on setting up the MyRec.com website** to expedite registration for sports leagues. The website will not be ready for soccer season, but once SB is trained having it will be a great help.

## **V. Sports, activities, and event updates**

### **A. Soccer**

— **BE will coach pre-K and K; JR will coach 1st-3rd grade; CL will coach 4th-6th grade**

— Games will be Saturday at 9am

— **JR and CL will meet to set up when they want to practice.** BE will practice once a week with his group and is flexible as to what day. Tentative plan is for practices to begin the first week of September.

— **CL will attend the league meeting in August**

— **SB will work on determining registration costs and getting sign up organized to begin August 1st and be done by 14th.** It was noted that it is important that we have sign ups done before the league meeting in mid-August so if we need two 4th-6th grade teams we will know and be able to schedule games accordingly. If we have two teams in this age group, they will practice together by have separate games. With only 7 players on the field for games, most likely we will need two teams.

— **BE will purchase a large road sign for the rec comm to use for promotion of events. BE will put together promo flyers for soccer once SB gets him the information.**

— **JR will work on contacting Gretchen Liacatta (PVRSD facilities manager) regarding the location of the porta-potty at NES. Possibly a space could be cleared and leveled on the north side of the parking lot if it is within the school boundary line.**

### **B. Re-cap of baseball/softball/T-ball**

— Everything went pretty well. There was some confusion regarding the age limits of the baseball league so some of the Northfield players were older than the other towns, but teams were accommodating and were able to work it out.

— Twenty-eight (28) kids for T-ball. A large group, so it was good to have five coaches.

— SB reported that softball went well.

### **C. Use of NMH facilities**

— CL had no update at this time, but is actively working on setting up the use of NMH pool, ice skating, etc. for Northfield residents

### **D. Adult pick-up softball**

— BE reported that the first two weeks have gone well and he anticipates more people to attend. BE suggested that after softball that the rec comm provide a weekly pick-up sport activity — maybe soccer in the fall, then later volleyball, and basketball. **BE will work on this.**

— BE submitted a receipt for reimbursement to SB for \$153.25 for equipment he purchased for pick-up softball.

### **E. Youth pick-up baseball games**



— CL mentioned that Brittany Turner would like to organize a kid's pick-up baseball game. Discussion and questions followed. Can we promote this as a rec com activity? (in view of liability issues, etc.) Everyone agreed that this is a good idea and we would like it to be promoted as a rec comm event. **SB will check with town manager regarding this.**

#### F. Woo Sox game

— JR gave an update. Twenty-seven (27) signed up. It was a really fun time. WooSox very accommodating. Next time maybe we will have enough for a charter bus

— **SB suggested we set time aside at future meeting to brainstorm ideas of other trips and get these on our calendar for promotion.**

#### **VI. Directors Position**

— **CL and BE have volunteered to be on the interview committee.** They have received information on the process from the town manager.

— The position has been posted and only SB has expressed interest.

— **SB will reach out to town manager for her availability for an interview some time next week.**

— If SB takes this position, then she will have to step down as chair of the rec comm. **JR has agreed to take on the role of chair. This will need to be approved by motion and vote when the time comes.**

#### **VII. New Business**

A. With the availability of rec comm funds BE suggested the possibility of purchasing the equipment for an outdoor skating rink. **BE will work on this (location, cost, maintenance) to be presented at future meeting.**

B. CL suggested the use of rec comm funds to purchase seasonal guest passes for the use of Vernon Pool to be made available to Northfield residents. **CL will look into this.**

C. JR noted that the baseball field at NES needs a major overhaul. **JR will look into whether this is something we can contract Snows to do for next season or find another company that will do it.**

**D. SB noted that CORI forms need to be submitted if they have not be done yet.**

#### **VII. Schedule next meeting and adjourn**

— Next meeting will be Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at 6:30pm

— **CL motioned to adjourn. Second JR. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned 7:39pm**

Action items and/or actionable motions highlighted **GREEN**