

Town of Northfield Public Meeting – Minutes

approved 2/1/23
Josaluk

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

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

Location of meeting (physical address): 69 Main Street, Northfield MA 01360 in the EOC room

Date and time the meeting convened: 1/4/2023 at 6:30pm

Members present: 1) Josh Roman (JR) - Chair; 2) Bob Emberley (BE) – Vice Chair; 3) Chelsea Depault (CD) – Treasurer; 4) Courtney Lawler (CL); and 5) Laura Fries (LF).

Members absent: none

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

1) Call to Order

A) 6:30pm Chair (JR) called to order and quorum present.

2) Citizen Input/Guests

A) None

3) Review and approval of minutes from December 7th, 2022.

A) Motion made to approve minutes from Dec 7th 2022 by LF, seconded by CL, vote all yea.

4) Directors Report

A) We came back to the director's report after going through the line items first and if there was anything extra to add, SB would add in here:

1) In past, NRC held an outing to Berkshire East to do tubing. Committee decided to hold off this year.

5) Chairs Report

A) Nothing extra.

6) Pickleball

A) SB has resident Ruth Potee helping to set up Pickleball court on 1/7/23. BE willing to help.

B) Discussion on how to run it. Do we charge money? Idea for a "donation jar" or register online with a one-time fee then come whenever you want? SB will get it started and see what works best.

C) Also need someone to run it. A volunteer preferably, but with amount of people predicted, might require to hire someone like Pat Holloway. SB will contact to ask.

D) SB reached out to Elizabeth Nett about possibility for beginner lessons for Pickleball.

E) Todd "Happy" Boynton donated a Pickleball net! Thank you Happy!

7) 2023 Schedule

A) SB showed the committee a January schedule that was a prototype but wasn't sure how it would work logistically on websites/social media platforms. JR noticed that there was a schedule on the NRC website and SB will investigate doing it that way since it will be good to have all in one place.

8) Pool Advisory Group

- A) A motion was made by CL to make LF the Pool Advisory Group Coordinator, seconded by CD, vote all yea.
- B) LF gave update from the Turners Falls pool. Unfortunately, it is not available for NRC at this time. JR asked if during Feb vacation maybe they would be available? LF will check.
- 9) Girls on the Run
- A) JR still working on more information.
- 10) Summer Program update
- A) SB had a meeting with town administrator to determine first steps. Andrea Llamas referred SB to the Board of Health Agent, Claudia, and SB has been in contact with her. Waiting on her to determine if we would be considered a "residential camp" or not. Also, SB and Andrea determined the best route is to create a job within the town for the position of Camp Director. Andrea will help SB work on this.
- B) A suggestion was made to reach out to Amy Hendricks to see if she might help us get this ready for this summer. Worried there is still too much to do.
- 11) Basketball update
- A) CL gave update that there is a lot of participation and so-far it is going well!
- 12) Cheerleading update
- A) SB reports it is going well and needed to order a second round of pom poms! The coach will give us their game schedule once they determine it.
- 13) Treasurers report
- A) CD is waiting on the expense report before projecting numbers. She will also check with the town about money we have received through our website for winter sports to make sure it is there and in the correct location(s).
- 15) Fiscal year 2024 budget
- A) JR, SB and CD met a week prior to work to put accurate numbers into our FY2024 ask. With a director with more hours, means we have more to offer the residents, which equals many increases to our numbers. A motion was made by CL to approve the NRC FY2024 budget put forth, LF second, all yea.
- 16) CPC update
- A) BE gave update. Deadline due soon!
- 17) PTO pavilion grant
- A) SB delivered a signed letter from the NRC for our support in the PTO's ask for money to build a pavilion at the Northfield Elementary School. The PTO chair wondered if the NRC was helping out financially, and the reply was not at this time.
- 18) Adult pick-up basketball update
- A) BE reports that it is going well!
- 19) Adult exercise class update
- A) Going well at NES in the cafeteria. Due to Laura Rooney's schedule and also the hard floor of the cafeteria, it is difficult to offer "dance aerobics" at this time. However, SB wondered about the use of the Aux. Weight Room come April as the floor is cushioned. SB will work on this idea.
- 20) Weight room update
- A) Going well although not a lot of attendance. Average number of people is about two.
- 21) Kiwanis Park update
- A) No new update. SB emailed the Kiwanis chair with no response.
- 22) Winter group outing to basketball and hockey game
- A) A good amount of people signed up for the hockey game (25 tickets). No sign ups yet for the women's basketball game. Deadline for the hockey game is Jan. 8th.
- 23) Cross Country Ski at Northfield Mountain update

A) CL says at this point, just waiting for Northfield Mountain to coordinate with the Dickinson Library. The season passes will be 12 punches per card with one card for each day of the week. 4 passes per day.

24) 350th

A) SB reports nothing new for the NRC softball game. Haven't heard from Deerfield Rec yet.

25) Indoor Soccer late winter/early spring

A) Committee decided that despite the extreme interest in this idea, it feels like too much going on between end of basketball/cheerleading and the beginning of baseball/softball. CL anticipates offering open gym kids basketball after the season is over, and once outdoor weather is better, an open kids pick up soccer. SB will email Bernardston Recreation with hopes we can try again another time.

26) Baseball/Softball field upgrades

A) JR reports that he has some prices on in-field dirt/soil and spoke with the highway department to help with equipment and hauling. Will need volunteers to get the baseball field up to snuff, and to put in a softball field at West Northfield. Hoping to do in March to middle of April at the latest.

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

A) Discussion about other demographics that NRC should be serving ensued, and most felt that between NRC, the Senior Center and the Dickinson Library, most demographics and interests are well covered, except teenagers. Still would like to pursue a "teen night" or a way of including the 7th/8th graders in some pick up sports.

B) CL reported about trash being a problem at the Northfield Elementary School and suggested that the NRC put an extra trash can at the outdoor basketball court and offer to dump them in the main trash receptacle. CL and BE will follow up.

28) Schedule next meeting February 1st, 2023 at 6:30pm at Town Hall

30) Adjourn

A) A motion was made to adjourn at 7:58pm by BE, seconded by CL, vote all yea.