

Town of Northfield Public Meeting – Minutes

Josh Roman
Chair NRC
8/2/23
approved

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

Date and time the meeting convened: July 5th 2023 at 6:30pm

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

Members absent: None

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

-
- 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 June 7th, 2023.
 - A) Motion made to approve minutes from June 7th, 2023 by CL, seconded by LF, vote all yea.
 - 4) Chairs Report
 - A) Long term goal: better storage building. The metal storage containers are sometimes very difficult to open.
 - B) JR asked committee members to bring 3 ideas forward to each meeting.
 - 5) Baseball/Softball field upgrades
 - A) Still need to spread infield conditioner.
 - B) LF has been gathering quotes to possibly replace the short backstop at the WNP due to a recent anonymous donation. Unfortunately, it seems expensive to replace. Quotes range from \$30K to \$10K. Maybe apply for CPC money? Ask West Northfield Playground (WNP) if they had any funds to help? Also need a third quote.
 - 6) Summer Movie Night July 28th
 - A) Friday July 28th at 8:30pm at NES field. "Winter in July" theme. BE can get snow cone machine. JR has a projector. Movie: Cool Runnings. People need to bring their own chairs, etc.
 - 7) Track and Field
 - A) Has at least four kids signed up already.
 - 8) Pickleball
 - A) Looking at data from this past year from MyRec, and Pickleball is our biggest program. Pat Holloway is on vacation on 9/17 & 9/21. JR may be able to cover 9/21.
 - 9) Adult exercise class update
 - A) Due to footing plus attendance, Dance Aerobics is suspended for the summer. Currently just one class, Yoga/Pilates from 6-7pm at the Northfield Golf Course.
 - 10) Pool Advisory Group

- A) LF would like to work again on NMH and will reach out soon.
- B) Vernon Pool passes are a hit again this year.
- C) Camp Northfield offered to let us use their pool for a fee. More expensive than Vernon, but since it is right in town, want to keep the option available.

11) Summer Program update

- A) SB reports that it is off and running! First day was a bit chaotic, but as to be expected. SB spoke to Carla Simpson, the District Nurse, and would like to try for a nurse on staff next year. Hiring janitors to clean the bathrooms would be costly, and SB spoke to Cheryl George at NES and figured out a way to keep bathrooms clean. Look into free lunches for the kids for next year.

12) Treasurer's report

- A) CD asked about an additional line item on the budget that appears new ("Rec Playground Program") and will ask Erin Degnan about it.
- B) SB and CD are going to try to keep a running tab of transactions on our own Excel budget sheets so that we can see where our money is in real time (and also to double check numbers).
- C) Another big thank you to the Kiwanis for the \$2,000 donation that all was spent to help at least 7 different kids attend the Summer Program this year.

13) End of fiscal year spending

- A) Discussed plans to wrap up end of fiscal year spending. Cut off is 7/17/23.

14) CPC appointment/update

- A) Vote to appoint BE to CPC: Motion by JR, 2nd by CL, passed unanimously.

15) Adult pick-up soccer/softball update

- A) Softball starts July 11th at 5:30pm at NES on Tuesday nights.
- B) BE will utilize a marquee sign at NES for advertising. Maybe NRC can have the 350th marquee sign at the end of the year?
- C) Soccer went well, but numbers dropped off towards the end.

16) Baseball, Softball, Tee ball wrap up

- A) Need more parent help with t-ball next year
- B) SB spoke to Mike Barry, and he seems like he might be willing to coach softball again next year, and thought there may be enough girls for TWO teams!

17) 350th softball game

- A) Need a minimum of 9 players for a full team. Adults only. SB in communication with Deerfield Rec and their 350th committee. WNP won't be able to do food but suggested the Northfield VFW. JR suggested as a "prize" for the winning team: each team member puts \$5 into a jar and whichever team wins, donates all the money to a local charity in their town of their choosing. Northfield could do Loaves & Fishes?
- B) T-shirts: blue tie-dye with 350th logo on front and Rec Com logo on back?
- C) JR will make sure softball field is ready on Aug. 12th.

18) Director's report

- A) Another discussion about a part-time maintenance worker. Maybe ask if there is someone from the DPW that would want more hours? Or just create a new position?
- B) Soccer sign ups! CL will do the seniors again either Tues/Fri or Wed/Fri preferably 3:15-4:15 2x/week right after school, but maybe kids in afterschool can't participate? JR will do Juniors on Wed's 5-6pm 1x/week and BE will do the "Kick Starts" 4-5pm on Wed's 1x/week. Games Sat. 9am for Juniors and Seniors only. Sign ups will begin online in a couple weeks. Last week of Aug is when practice starts. Cost same as last year. Reminder that parents are expected to be there for younger kids and once practice is over it isn't the coaches responsibility to baby sit.
- C) Also, once 350th is over, does Rec Com want to take on some more of these fun type activities and not just sports related?

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

A) None

20) Schedule next meeting August 2nd, 2023 at 6:30pm at Town Hall

22) Adjourn

A) A motion was made to adjourn at 8:39pm by LF, seconded by CL, vote all yea.