

Minutes for Norwich Recreation Council Meeting 6/7/16

Present: Jill Kearney-Niles, Laura Duncan, Chris Clapp, Kristin Fauci, Rebecca Matteo, Jill Collins, Page Tompkins, Amy Tuller, Gered Dunne

Reviewed minutes of last meeting. Minutes accepted with motion by Laura Duncan, second by Jill K-N.

Touch a Truck wrap up: A huge success. Thank you to Bill Tine for helping out and bringing treats. They were a big hit. Some kids came just for the food. How can we get them involved or keep it to just to the kids who are involved? Maybe move the food over. The kids had a good time.

Summer Program: the buzz is getting out and people are excited. Had a great meeting with Page and set up 2 climbing adventures. Scott and Lindsay McClure Miller will be doing a World Media Photography/Media Arts program with the afternoon program.

Jill has met with Dicky Dodds. Will be able to use Storrs pond and pool. Cost of our Sports Camp will be \$54 for the week if just morning or \$154 for the week if doing the afternoon program also. Will go on Advance Transit from Norwich to Richmond Middle School and hike down the trail. Dicky will just bill Jill for # of kids that go. Everything will be included. For kids entering 3rd to 7th grade.

For the other 3 weeks of the summer we will be offering the world media photography program from 9-3. They will also be offering three Friday 'Make A Documentary' days on the Fridays when climbing is not offered. Jill will send out this week in the News Notes to let people know.

From June 17-August 30, Norwich residents can buy Storrs Pond daily entrance tickets at Norwich Town Clerk's office for \$8.

Fall Soccer: Projections: A lot of boys, more than girls. Jill recruited Paul Foster, and Chris Brien. He will follow his team for another year this fall. We will still need more assistance for coaching due to numbers. Will have 2 teams for games. Jill can schedule 2 back to back games with other towns having large teams. Jill C. suggested letting parents know that Jill K-N needs to go to a scheduling meeting on August 26 and needs to know numbers by then. Ask folks to register early.

Laura spoke with the Dartmouth team and they will offer 2 clinics for the 5/6 grade teams.

Lightning tryouts are happening right now. Jill has put notice on list serve and will email notice and in PTO notes Friday to let people know about our fall Soccer.

Pump Track: Gered and Jill went to Storrs Pond to try the pump track. Gered thinks we could do a good job with a track here. He has spoken with several people about what goes into building and maintaining. 2 shifts over 2 days. Needs to be weed-wacked 2times per year. 20'- 40' or 30'- 60'. Start with large piles of dirt, then backhoe moves the dirt and people tamp it in and then test it out. Preferably somewhere shaded and out of the sun and in a place where it would get the most

use. Jill visited the Dresden fields to get ideas of where it could go there. There is a new director of buildings and grounds at Dresden, so this may be a good time to discuss this. There are a couple of spots at Huntley that could also be used, out of the way and subtle. Could start with something small for the little kids and then move up to the larger track at Dresden. Gered would like to see a short track mountain bike trail in the orchard area. He is also trying to get the Conservation Commission to condone biking for children on Milton Frye trails. Kids need stuff to do downtown that is easy. We can be pro-conservation of green spaces and still pro kids' activity. We need to make sure that if any pump track is put on town property, all abutters need to be notified. Design should be such that it gives recreation options to children already on property, rather than to bring more people/traffic into an area. These would be just for children, not for teenagers/adults. Rebecca is looking for grants to fund the pump track. Jill has some information on a grant which needs 1:1 approval.

Chris suggested just focusing on Huntley pump track rather than looking at Dresden right now. Jill suggested mapping out a track with cones or flags so all interested residents could see what space it would involve. We would need to have a public forum and be sure to include & invite any: abutters, Conservation Commission, UV Trails Committee, UV Trails Alliance, David Ormiston, the interim town manager, & the public works department. We would need to advertise the forum on the List Serve and ask Nancy Kramer to send the information out to her Norwich Global list. Gered thinks we can try to be prepared for Select Board meeting in July and be able to get started in the fall. Will need to have a spot approved before we can get a grant. Laura suggested we also offer cross country skiing on King Arthur trails.

Fishing Program: Laura suggested Matt Duncan, Justin Krawitt, Dan McGinley-Smith and Matt Hall, and Laura's brother in law to lead fishing program from VT Fish and Wildlife Dept. You become a certified instructor and the kids don't need licenses. They offer lots of free equipment for kids. Rebecca said that Dartmouth has a program for hunting and fishing.

State Track Meet: held at St. Johnsbury Academy 7-14 year olds, every year. Small cost per child to enter. Norwich used to enter a tiny team about 18 years ago. Laura asked if we could post this on website. Too late for this year, but maybe for next. Kids would probably do the Hanover track program, but could compete at the St. J meet.

Jill Collins went to the Girls on the Run race in Essex and talked about how large, and fun it was.

Labor Day Road Race: Jill C., Kristin, Chris, Laura, Amy, Rebecca can help out. Jill also has a list of people who have kindly helped out as volunteers on race day in the past. Gered will be out of town, but will be available for pre-race planning. Chris suggested giving awards to all the kids who run, as it is a really big accomplishment to run this 2 mile loop. Laura suggested a rubber bracelet for each kid with a specific color for each year and the year on it, so kids can collect them each year.

Bridge review: Gered is continuing to work on getting a bridge for the river behind Huntley.

New Business: Chris needs to purchase fencing for baseball field to make a box for kids to warm up swinging while they are waiting for their turn at bat. This is to prevent kids from hitting someone while swinging. Laura suggested asking for this next year. Jill suggested asking Lions Club.

No meeting in July. Next meeting: Tuesday, August 2nd @ 7pm in Tracy Hall