

Norwich Recreation Council Minutes
Tuesday March 8, 2016 7pm

Present: Jill Kearney-Niles, Laura Duncan, Karin Dwyer, Jill Collins, John Girard, Page Tompkins, Kristin Fauci, Gered Dunne, Amy Tuller

Thank-you to Jill Collins for taking the Minutes!

1. Welcome to New Members-

The four proposed new members of the Recreation Committee attended the meeting this evening and will go before the Select Board on March 23rd for approval. Jill welcomed and introduced the proposed new members. Jill mentioned that although this is a lot of turn over for the committee at one time, she is excited about the enthusiasm of the new members. She also expressed her thanks and gratitude for the Council members who are leaving and contributed so much - Reese Madden, Ben Forbush and Karin Dwyer. They have all been active members on the Council for years and their time and dedication to the Town is greatly appreciated. Discussion ensued about filling the remaining open position. Recommendations were made and Jill will follow up on them before the next meeting. Laura Duncan will continue on as President of the Council, Chris Clapp will continue on as Vice-President. No Secretary was elected at this point. The role of Secretary will continue to rotate among the council members unless a council member volunteers to be the full time Secretary.

2. Spring and Summer Programming-

Spring- Jill gave an update on where she is with filling spring sports coaching vacancies. Most have been filled and Council members suggested names for the remaining opening slots. Jill has secured some baseball coaches and is waiting on others to make their spring baseball decisions. Running programs and lacrosse programs are set. Jill will be attending scheduling meetings in the next few weeks and will shore up high school softball field usage as well as Lightening Soccer usage so that we can look at the Huntley Meadow Spring Schedule at our April meeting. The goal is to identify high/heavy use days where parking/traffic will be an issue and try to be proactive in dealing with it this Spring. **ACTION ITEM: Jill K-N needs to have all Huntley Meadow practice/game schedules for April, May and June ready to be looked at during the April Meeting.**

Summer- Jill has secured staffing for the sports camp and is looking into offering a longer day option for a few weeks this summer. It was noted that in the past the afternoon sessions were not as popular as the morning

session. However, Jill noted that in the Rec Council Survey there were numerous requests for a full day option and would like to do a 4 week trial to confirm the popularity of a full day option. She is also looking into adding a Friday option off site. Jill also put out feelers to the Hanover Improvement Society/Storrs Pond to see whether the Town could secure cheaper swim options for Norwich Residents given the loss of the Norwich Pool. She will update us on this as she hears back.

3. Library-

Both Laura and Karin represented the Rec Council at a recent meeting with Bill Hammond, MCS PTO leaders and the librarians at NPL to discuss and brainstorm possible safe and alternative options for students currently using the library grounds as an after school gathering spot. Discussion ensued and possible options for safe spaces were mentioned; however, the MCS gym and Tracy Hall are generally booked after school with existing recreation opportunities. This group will continue to meet and Jill will attend the next meeting and be a part of the discussion.

4. Eagle Scout Project-

A possible Eagle Scout project to address and fix the gap at the bottom of the town tennis courts at Huntley Meadow has been proposed to Jill. She is working with Eagle Scout, Roger Danilek on the details and is hopeful that it will be completed.

5. New Business-

The grant application for the Womens Club is due May 1st. Jill needs the numbers on the ice rink liner from Karin before she can apply. **ACTION ITEM- Karin needs to give Jill the rink numbers so Jill can apply for a grant.** Gered would like to put the discussion of a pump track on the agenda for the next meeting.

Next Meetings:

Tuesday, April 5 at 7pm

Tuesday, May 3 at 7pm

Tuesday, June 7 at 7pm