

Norwich Recreation Council Meeting Minutes from 1/10 '17

Present: Jill Kearney-Niles, Jill Collins, Ryan Gardner, Page Tompkins, Gered Dunne & Amy Tuller

Discussed possible AED training for coaches and those interested. Jill will look into lining this up. Reviewed minutes of December 6th meeting. Approved.

Overview of Norwich Pool Committee work and proposals.

Jill reviewed cover page of description of what the Norwich Recreation Department budget supports.

Andy has been trying to find a part to fix the old snowmobile that is used to groom the trails at Huntley Meadow. We now need a plan for something new. We do have money in the Rec Facilities Improvement Fund, which is entirely made up of previous private donations. Andy has found a machine for \$3,500.00, which could hopefully be used for at least the next 10 years. Laura brought up the idea of having a Rec cross country skiing program at Huntley. Discussion followed about strategic plan of Rec department and priorities. All council members present agreed that having cross country skiing at Huntley is a priority and if this is needed in order to uphold this priority, then it is a worthwhile way to spend this money. The recreation council discussed the importance of the recreation facilities improvement fund to provide for the unanticipated facility needs. A motion was put forth to endorse spending \$3,500 out of the Rec Facilities Improvement Fund, pending all other required approvals. The motion passed unanimously. This money is outside of the town budget.

Basketball season: Discussed change in game schedule for one game of just 6th graders and one for just 5th graders. Some members of the council are not comfortable with this and feel it does not fit with our recreation philosophy. Tournament schedule discussed and Laura is helping to line up tournament enrolments. Discussed AAU options for post season and where practices could be held. AAU teams can't have open gym time' Gym time at Marion Cross needs to be paid for. Dora should be able to let us know about times available and costs. Unsure about cost of Tracy Hall if team were all Norwich players.

Upcoming Mud Season: fill is planning for upcoming mud season indoor lacrosse warm up and setting up coaches. Also for baseball warm up.

Strategic Plan and Recreation Philosophy: (presented by Laura) Committee looked at several youth sports philosophies on the internet. Want to make reference to childhood development. Discussion about what makes kids enjoy and participate in youth sports and what makes them quit. Team wants to develop a Norwich Rec coaches' brochure about criteria for expectations for coaches, with bullet points. The Upper Valley Recreation Association (UVRA) which we are a part of, has a brochure about expectations for coaches, players, and spectators. Committee members will continue to build this philosophy, which could be sent out with Norwich Rec Council information. Jill Collins discussed that Empower Lacrosse has a brochure with information about what parents should/might say to their kids after a game (with positive messages).

Next Meeting Scheduled for: Tuesday, February 7th @ 7pm in the Tracy Hall Conference Room