



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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**RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday October 6, 2022
Whipple Hall
5:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Lorio (Co-Chair)
Greg Parthum
Tara Stone

No quorum present so no official motions or votes were taken

OTHERS PRESENT:

Putnam Kidder, Town of New London Recreation Director
Two community members to offer feedback on Halloween planning

Meeting started at 5:30 PM

Meeting time was shortened to allow Rec. Director and Rec. Commission members to attend Selectmen's meeting that was starting at 6 PM that was going to be addressing pertinent Halloween planning discussion.

Public Comment:

Two community members addressed the Commission. They both expressed being happy about the compromise that was presented to have a portion of Main Street closed for Trick or Treating this year. Both asked questions about the decision to keep Main Street open initially and also the reasoning behind the choice to have Trick or Treating happen on Sunday 10/30 instead of actual Halloween. They both expressed appreciation of the Rec. Dept/Commission work and hoped that there could be more public input and comment on Rec. planning and events in the future. The Rec. Director and Rec. Commission thanked them for coming and making their voices heard and offering their support.

Director Report:

*Full-Time Recreation Director position is posted
*Update on Halloween changes. Decision was made to keep a smaller portion of Main Street closed for Trick or Treating on Sunday 10/30 from 4-6 PM. NLFD and NLPD responded to public input and stepped up with a workable compromise for this year. After the event there will be further discussion about what to do in future years. Hopefully, with public input.

*Flag Football After School Program on the Green. Coed with sixteen participants. The kids seem to be having fun and the parents are supportive. This serves as a good sign that there is a strong desire for activities for school aged students in the time right after school 3-4:30/5.

*Question about the Activity Fund. Looking at options if this funding could continue. A question was asked by community group about the status of the fund. Currently the fund has been switched to cover the Full-Time Rec. Director position. There is an understanding and support of the Rec. Department/Commission being able to offer funding to outside groups to help put on events, but further discussion is needed look at the ability to offer funds in the future

*Santa by Firetruck event was discussed. Looking at possible dates. The decision was to go with an event mid-December, closer to Xmas, rather than earlier in the month or at the end of Nov.

Information from the Conservation Commission was shared about efforts to raise funds for the Cricenti Bog walkway project. Rec. Director will post on Rec. Facebook and post flyer in Rec. Office.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:58 PM

Due to time constraints the next meeting date was not confirmed. Rec. Director will reach out to Rec. Commission to pick a date.

Respectfully submitted,

**Putnam Kidder
Recreation Director
Town of New London**