



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

375 MAIN STREET • NEW LONDON, NH 03257 • NEWLONDON.NH.GOV

## RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES December 1, 2022 Whipple Hall 5:30 PM

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jackie Christensen (Chair)  
Chris Lorio (Co-Chair)  
Tara Stone  
Greg Parthum

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Putnam Kidder, Town of New London Recreation Director  
Scott Fitzgerald, Rec. Commission Member, attended via Zoom

**Meeting started at 5:30 PM**

**IT WAS MOVED by Chris Lorio AND SECONDED by Tara Stone to accept Minutes from Rec. Commission Meeting 9-1-22 THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**IT WAS MOVED by Chris Lorio AND SECONDED by Greg Parthum to accept Minutes from Rec. Commission Meeting 10-6-22 THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**IT WAS MOVED by Chris Lorio AND SECONDED by Tara Stone to accept Minutes from Rec. Commission Meeting 11-3-22 THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- Halloween follow up. Rec. Director had a meeting in early Nov. with NLPD Chief and NLFD Chief to review event this year and look at options for future. From that meeting NLPD Chief created a proposal of the needed safety staff (NLPD, NLFD, volunteers) and anticipated costs connected to that. Rec. Commission brought up some clarifying questions about proposal regarding numbers of staff needed, possible time of event, and options to fund safety costs. Rec. Director will follow up with NLPD Chief about proposal and work to come up with a definitive cost to put on the event and report back to Commission. Look at option of putting some of the cost into Rec. Dept. Budget, also explore the options of fund raising or sponsorships to help offset costs. There was also discussion about the opportunity to have community volunteers be a part of a separate organizing committee to help oversee and organize the event in collaboration with Rec. Dept, NLPD, and NLFD.
- Santa via Firetruck event on the Green planned for Sunday 12/18 from 3:30-5 PM. Plan for additional event on Saturday 12/17 from 9-11 at Whipple, community ornament making event?

- Rink update. Rink in Town is set up and waiting to freeze. Lots of use last year, will be utilized by KRES-NL for Winter Activities, Friday afternoons in January. Have a dedicated volunteer who helps with ice maintenance. We hope would be to get more volunteers. Hockey? Last season we decided to discourage hockey as there were problems with stray pucks. No hockey this season (unless supervised by Rec. Staff or volunteers), to avoid safety issues? Hope is to have some hockey options, whether a specific night a week (supervised) or have a specific supervised event? Encourage people to use other rinks in the area that are better equipped for playing hockey on, Sunapee, Warner?
- Winter Carnival, planned for early Feb. 2023. Plan is for Wed-Sunday event, fireworks/s'mores at SAU field, band/event in Whipple, short road race, dodgeball tournament, snowshoeing, food option, skating, hockey tourney? Rec. Director is putting together events and schedule.
- Family Fun Fest update. Rec. Director met with members of Rotary about continuing this event (this past Summer it was held on Sunday 7/3 12-4 on Green) in some way this Summer and having Rec. Dept take lead role on organizing and then collaborating with other community groups. Timing of event overlaps with proposed Strawberry Fest (late June, early July). Look at the possibility of combining two events or moving Family Fun Fest to later in the Summer?
- With all these events and others, the hope is to build a yearly calendar for NLREC events that can be built over time. Consistency of dates for events will be beneficial and also support getting more specific volunteers for events to help with logistics.

Respectfully submitted,

Putnam Kidder  
Recreation Director  
Town of New London