



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2022
5:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jackie Christensen (Chair)

Justin Garzia

Tara Stone

Kim Ilg

OTHER'S PRESENT:

Putnam Kidder, Town of New London Recreation Director

Resident, Andrew P., regarding Coniston After School Program (for 1st portion of meeting)

IT WAS MOVED Kim Ilg by AND SECONDED by Tara Stone to start meeting THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED Kim Ilg by AND SECONDED by Tara Stone to accept Minutes from 1/15/21 Rec. Commission Meeting THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED Justin Garzia by AND SECONDED by Tara Stone to accept Minutes from 2/3/22 Rec. Commission Meeting THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

*Recent announcement of closure of YMCA Camp Coniston after school program at KRES as of 4/22/22. Commission discussed to try to look at options to support community with lack of childcare. Coniston staff have been in contact with other groups to try to fill in gap in care. Local parent impacted by situation joined meeting to share his views and discuss options. Commission decided that the Town does not have the space or the staff to try to offer after school care that would be able to fill in for Coniston. With Covid number continuing to drop it was discussed that Rec. Department can again offer after school activities for kids of the recreational variety that could help with some childcare coverage.

***Rec. Director reported on:**

Annual Easter Town event to be held on Saturday 4/16 on the Town Green from 9-11 am. Looking at options of offering activities for older children and families as well.

Ongoing preparation for summer staffing. Some returning staff have committed and advertisements and other social media are being used to get more staff. The Commission discussed the need to offer

competitive wages for staff, due to staffing shortages in the region. Director will follow up with Town Administrator on wages. The plan is for the Town to offer swim lessons at both beaches like in past (pre-Covid) Summers, based on staffing availability. The Commission discussed options of Sailing Lessons being offered. Due to limited staffing and concerns about safely being able to offer them, the lessons will not be offered this Summer. The Rec. Director will explore options of trying to allow qualified (or over 18 years old) people able to use the sailboats and explore options of trainings behind held over the course of the Summer.

Outing Club (OC) Board Meeting. Rec. Director will be attending these meetings to support ongoing communication and collaboration between OC and Town Rec. Dept. OC will be offering Summer Camp for regional kids this Summer. Skating rink for next Winter at Woodward Park was discussed at OC, look at possible ways Town Rec. Dept could help with that project as the Town Rink is not the best for hockey and there is interest in the community for that type of opportunity.

IT WAS MOVED Tara Stone by AND SECONDED by Justin Garzia to adjourn. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 4/7/22 at 5:30 at Whipple Hall

Respectfully submitted,
Putnam Kidder
Recreation Director,
Town of New London