

North Stonington Recreation Commission  
Special Meeting Minutes  
August 10, 2023

Attending Commissioners: J. Holdridge, M. Broneill, L. Umphlett, E. Mastroianni, M. Stark, H. Dugas (late), M. Perkins (late)

Attending Guests: Tom Fabian (Rec Director), Christine Dias (Admin/Finance Director), Brett Mastroianni (Selectman), Heather Allen, Jamie Towle-Weicksel (Board of Ed), Stephanie Mastroianni (Board of Ed)

Call to Order: 6:18 p.m.

Minutes: June 2023 minutes reviewed and approved (5 to 0)

Financial Report: reviewed and approved (5 to 0)

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: Boy Scouts have requested dates to use the recreation building and will forward a calendar. Dir. Fabian will confirm availability with them.

#### Old Business

- **Use of approved ARPA funds:**
  - Funds used to date \$7,172.80; C. Dias will confirm refrigerator.
  - Skate nights on target for next year. Other ideas for programming encouraged.
- **Background Checks for Coaches and Volunteers:** Updated and reviewed. Will be conducted annually. Finalize at next meeting.
- **Summer Activities:**
  - Summer Camp: one day remaining. On average 30 children/week.
  - Basketball Camp: canceled due to low enrollment.
  - Extended Camp Days: low enrollments; max 20/week.
  - Art & Drama: low enrollment
  - Tennis, Archery: strong enrollment
- Pickle ball Courts @298 Norwich Westerly Rd: Quote in hand to resurface/paint for \$2,500 two courts. Will need approval from Selectman meeting. Motion made and approved: request approval of space at 298 Norwich Westerly Road from selectman. Recreation use \$2500 thru ARPA for pickle ball court resurface/paint. Motion approved (5-0). H. Dugas and another member of commission to present at Selectman meeting.

#### New Business

- **Program Administrative Fee for Instructor Led Programs:** Fee currently for use of the building. This would be applied to all programs going forward coordinated/run by an instructor other than Recreation. Suggestion is to implement a universal fee – merging building and programs. Tabled to next meeting.
- **Fall Youth Soccer:** 37 have registered to date. Tentative start after Labor Day. Youth Sunday Clinics planned for younger age groups.

- **Rec Shack Building:** List of what is needed for the shack to be developed. Boy Scouts could utilize community service event to organize/paint. E. Mastroianni will look to coordinate fundraising during soccer games from the shack thru school groups.
- **Bounce House Policy (Rocky Hollow & Hewett Farm):** Tabled
- **Pre/Post School Kid-Care Program (BOE):** BOE members S. Mastroianni and J. Towle-Weicksel in attendance to discuss pilot program collaboration. Survey conducted of Elementary School families, 20% returned responses, indicating strong need for before/after school program.
  - Design of program is that it is self-sustaining, generating enough each week to cover expenses and salaries. Will take place in school.
  - Would need to hire a program director to coordinate and run the program. One other staff member needed. Director reporting to Recreation, dotted line to School.
  - Initially 20 attending a morning and afternoon session in order to operate. Utilize Rec site for families to register.
  - Motion made and approved: to advertise and hire Director position, meeting HR guidelines (5-0)
  - Subcommittee formed to interview and proceed with motion: M. Perkins, H. Dugas, E. Mastroianni, J. Towle-Weicksel, S. Mastroianni

**Public Comment:** None

Motion to adjourn 9:06 p.m. approved (5-0)