

**Town of Haverhill
Parks & Recreation Commission
MEETING MINUTES
R. E. Clifford Memorial Building
65 South Court St.
Woodsville, NH 03785**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021
At 7:00 PM**

DRAFT subject to review by the Commission

Commission Members:

Jennifer West, Chair	Dawn Burleson
Sherri Sargent, Recreation Director	Kevin VanNorden
Mona Sanville	Sandi Pierce

Select Board Representative: Steve Robbins

Town Employees Present: None.

Visitors: None.

The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:06 PM by Jennifer West, Chair.

Roll Call Attendance: Jennifer West, Chair; Dawn Burleson; Kevin VanNorden; Sherri Sargent, Recreation Director; Steve Robbins; Sandi Davis; Mona Sanville. A quorum was met.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #1: Robbins made the motion to accept the minutes from **Wednesday, October 6, 2021**, as written, and VanNorden seconded the motion.

Voice vote: All members stated “Aye.” The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None.

OLD BUSINESS

Director’s Report

- **Acoustic Music Jams** have been scheduled throughout 2022, and continue to draw people from around the area. Sargent offered thanks to Jim and Ruth Strout who are instrumental to the success of the Music Jams.
- **Pickleball** continues Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM and Saturday at 9:00 AM. Mona Sanville is the liaison and ensures it runs smoothly. Sanville expressed no problems with the Pickleball groups.
- **Movement & Stretch** afternoon classes are not well attended. Sargent will reevaluate other programs and fill the time slot with another program, such as Open Gym.

- **Line Dancing** remains busy Wednesday evenings with Sargent instructing the program. Sargent stated that Lorianne Noyes taught the class during one session last month, and Sargent is looking for other volunteers. Sargent noted that the class has from 6 to 9 attendees every week.
- **Teen Night** (Haverhill Cooperative Middle School and French Pond School) was held on Friday, October 22, which was well attended with 77 HCMS 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students attending. Sanville and Sargent were chaperones along with Tricia Fagnant. Sargent stated that more chaperones are needed.

West noted that the school will soon end mask mandates. Sargent noted that Covid exposure and active cases need to be monitored before the next Teen Night can be planned. Sargent discussed the details of rules of behavior required by the teens and about an incident in which a group of teens was asked to leave.
- **Cornhole** seems to be a very popular activity at CMB with Eric Thornton as the registration contact. Thornton announced to Sargent that as the games expand, proceeds will come back to the Parks & Recreation Department. Sargent noted that Cornhole targets a different audience than typical for Rec Programs, and the schedule is on the website calendar.
- **Antique Strollers** has its dedicated walkers, but we have room for many more. Sargent noted that many of the previous attendees have a fear of Covid and prefer not to attend. Robbins noted that in his work, he is seeing many more Covid cases than last year.
- **Drums Alive** continues at the Horse Meadow Senior Center on Monday and Wednesdays.
- **Youth Soccer** finished strong. Ann Loud's pee-wee soccer program, and the Wolverines programs was a huge success with many thanks to Ann Loud, David Robinson, and Ryan Ackerman for being our liaisons. Sargent reported that there were 135 kids in the programs.
- **Hazen Park Haunted Wagon Ride 2021** was good. The weather was cold and rainy. We had 96 ticketholders with some cancelling due to the rain. Sargent was able to sell a few tickets the night of the event to fill the wagon. Assisting at the event were Recreation Commission members West, Sanville, Burleson, and VanNorden. Assisting Sargent with set-up of the park was Donna Borges and Maintenance Director, Jim McKinnon. West stated that the logistics of the wagon rides was great with no one waiting more than 5 minutes. Sargent said that the radio communication was well done with thanks to West. Sargent expressed concern about the poorly lit driveway and parking areas. Sargent was pleased to have Sean del Grego's food truck, which had great food. Sargent thanked the members for helping at Haunted Happenings. Sargent, again, thanked Donna Borges and Jim McKinnon for their help setting up.
- Director Sargent feels that Covid-19 may be causing a decline in programs, but is determined to remain open and available for the community.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Railroad Park / Hazen Park

Sargent announced that Railroad Park walking path had some work done with staymat added. At Hazen Park, dangerous trees will be removed. Sargent suggested as a plan for winter activities to do snowshoeing in Hazen Park except that the park driveway and parking area are not plowed. West suggested a sleigh ride with a bonfire and hot chocolate. Robbins suggest plowing Hazen Park.

Robbins suggested a New Year's Eve celebration with a road race and a leftover Christmas tree bonfire. Pierce mentioned Dalton Thayer for planning horse and sleigh rides. Sargent mentioned that Joanna Bligh and "Rita" will come to the Haverhill Corner Common with the sleigh to have a living holiday card for people to take photos and possibly have rides.

2. Softball Clinics

Sargent announced the Softball Clinics by Dana Huntington starting December 1 at the J.R. Morrill building Wednesday nights for high schoolers only and Sundays from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM for the younger kids. Sargent stated that space for the clinics is limited.

3. Cold Turkey Plunge / Sunday, November 21

Sargent noted that this year is the 5th anniversary of the Cold Turkey Plunge. Pierce and West are cooking turkeys. Robbins, Sargent, Burleson, and Jennifer Boucher (Town Adm. team) will be plunging, and VanNorden volunteered for him and his children to take the plunge. The members passed out fund-raising packets to raise \$250 each. Sargent stated she will drop off forms at the schools and elsewhere and try to raise teams. Posters were available.

Sargent stated that the event is held at the Mt. Lakes Beach with the plunge at 1:00 PM sharp. Donations are \$50 for adults and \$35 for children, food (hot turkey sandwiches) are provided before the plunge, and T shirts or blankets are given out.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURN

MOTION #2: Pierce made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM, VanNorden seconded the motion.

Voice vote: All members stated "Aye." The vote passed unanimously.

Transcribed by Joanna Bligh.