

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

**Wednesday, September 1, 2021
At 6:00 PM**

DRAFT subject to review by the Commission

Commission Members:

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

Town Employees Present: None.

Select Board Representative: Steve Robbins

Visitors: None.

The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 6:00 PM by Jennifer West, Chair.

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

Unexcused: Sandi Pierce

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #1: Sanville made the motion to accept the minutes from **Wednesday, August 4, 2021**, as amended, and VanNorden seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None.

OLD BUSINESS

Director’s Report

1. The **Antique Strollers** walking group will continued walking Monday to Friday at the James R. Morrill Building from 11:00 AM to 12:00 AM and after next week walking will resume at the Clifford Building.
2. **Pickleball** games continue Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM and Saturday mornings 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM at the Clifford Building.
3. **Acoustic Music Jams** -- Music jams continued in August and the number of spectators increased. Attendance was good, and the music was enjoyed by all who attended.

4. **Music Summer Concert Series** – The August concert was the Bresett’s Band who played for a small audience of 30 spectators. Sargent ran concessions with help from Connor Collins.
5. **Drums Alive** – This Drums Alive event has continued at the Senior Center on Monday and Wednesdays.
6. Although on vacation, Sherri attended her monthly HASMPC meeting, Joint Loss Committee meeting, and Department Head meeting.
7. **Challenger International Soccer Program** – The program scheduled for **August 16 to August 20** was cancelled by the company because they had up to 20 soccer coaches walk off the job a few days before the start of our program. The program organizers were sorry for the cancellation and will try again next year.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Railroad Park Open MIC / Saturday, September 11, 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM.**
Sanville stated she will be available to help with the open mic. No other volunteers were available.
2. **Railroad Park Concert / Saturday, September 18, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.**
The Parker Hill Road Band will close the Railroad Park Summer Concert series. Volunteers were requested to assist as this is usually heavily attended and concessions are usually busy. Sanville will be available to work with a “maybe” from West.
3. **Cornhole Tournament**

Sanville announced Sunday, September 19 date for the tournament at Railroad Park at 10:00 AM until teams win. Sanville listed the equipment needed, which she will send notices out for donations:

- Cornhole boards
- Toss bags
- Concessions (grill, hamburgers, hot dogs)
- 50/50 Raffle
- Popcorn machine
- Scoreboards with brackets
- Prize money (one-half of registration fees) for one winning team
- Registration online of \$20 by August 21 and after that \$25
- Sanville noted that all Commission members will need to help.
- Double elimination process

Sanville noted that the Commission discussed offering a regular Cornhole League every other Sunday. Sargent noted that Friday evenings are free at the Clifford Building, but a volunteer liaison is needed. Sargent is preparing publicity for the website and the radio. The members discussed possibly having a band at the September 19 tournament but decided to get the event established first and

possibly add more in the future if successful. Sargent noted that the event can be indoors after a certain date.

Sargent discussed the need for a liability waiver for the Cornhole Tournament. Alcohol was discussed. Sargent reminded the group that RR Park is marked as no alcohol allowed, and the Selectboard would have to make a change or modification to the rules to be able to allow people to bring their own alcohol. Sargent mentioned that she researched getting a special license/permit with the State of NH, but the Commission is not qualified and would need to hire a caterer with a liquor license. Discussion ensued about presenting the question to the Selectboard for consideration. Sargent will get direction from the Town Manager.

4. **Youth Soccer** is offering 2 programs this year. One program (4 consecutive Sunday sessions) is being run by WHS Soccer coach Ann Loud. This program is geared for younger inexperienced children and will run at Haverhill Cooperative Middle School soccer field starting September 19 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM. The other program is the Wolverine Program, which was just absorbed by Parks & Recreation. This program is run by David Robinson and Ryan Ackerman and is held Monday and Thursday evenings at the VFW field and is designed for those who have more soccer experience. Sargent stated our Parks & Recreation program would not be successful if not for those people willing to volunteer their time.
5. **Teen Night** / Friday, September 24, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Clifford Memorial Building. Sargent stated this Teen Night is for Haverhill Cooperative Middle School and French Pond School students in grades 6, 7, and 8. Sanville offered to work with Sargent to chaperone the event. More chaperones are needed. Sargent's goal is to offer teen night once per month through the fall and winter months.

6. **Quarter Auction**

Sargent noted that with Pierce absent, there will be no update on the planning and progress for the auction. However, Sargent has received no recent responses to the letters and requests for donations that Piece sent out. She believed that the businesses that offered gifts and prizes last year may be limiting donations due to the pandemic. Discussion ensued with the Commission, and it was determined that with limited prizes and gifts, the Commission does not have enough to go forward with the Quarter Auction. Sargent also noted that the pandemic resurgence may impact the auction, so it is best to cancel for 2021. The Commission was in agreement.

7. **Haunted Happenings:**

The Recreation Commission discussed the upcoming Haunted Hazen Park on Saturday, October 30. It was determined that there will be a less scary wagon ride from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM with the haunted ride from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM.

Burleson, Sanville, and West agreed to volunteer. The idea of having food trucks was discussed. Both Robbins and VanNorden will check with food vendors. Ideas were offered on set design. Sargent will be looking for many volunteers to pull off the event. VanNorden will check on procuring pumpkins for children to carve at home and have on display at Hazen Park. A bonfire will need to be built.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at 6:00 PM.

ADJOURN

MOTION #2: Sanville made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM, West seconded the motion.

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

Transcribed by Joanna Bligh, edited by Sherri Sargent.