



**Haverhill Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 6:00 PM
Clifford Memorial Building
65 S. Court Street
Woodsville, NH 03785**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jennifer West called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Members in Attendance: Chair Jennifer West, Sherri Sargent, Joe Longacre, Dawn Burleson, and Sandi Pierce (excused). A quorum was met.

Visitors: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Director Sargent and Chair West suggested that the Minutes from January 3rd be tabled because there was not a quorum of members who attended the January meeting.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None.

OLD BUSINESS

Director's Report by Sherri Sargent

1. On January 12, Sargent presented the P&R Budget to the **Budget Committee**. The Committee had questions that were answered promptly. Sargent noted to the Committee that her budget was offered for 2024 without having knowledge of her 2023 revenue numbers. She explained that the last report she had received was from September and was shown to be above what was anticipated.
 - Burleson asked when Sargent will know her 2023 budget numbers, and Sargent replied that she is anticipating the report, but still does not have it.
 - Longacre stated that, as the Select Board member, he will keep working on it and noted that the Parks & Recreation Department was the only department at the Advisory Budget Committee meetings who did not have their 2023 budget numbers.
 - Sargent noted that as of September 29, the Parks & Recreation Department has approximately \$82,000 in revenue, which does not include the last quarter.
 - Longacre noted that the increases in revenue and the hard work put into the programs should be highlighted.
2. On January 12, there was a **Teen Night** offered at the Clifford Memorial Building (CMB) to children grades 6, 7, and 8. It was well received by the teens, and they seemed

to enjoy the night. DJ Kev offered music which thrilled the teens. Many thanks to both Kevin DeFosse and Kevin VanNorden for giving back to the community. Our next teen night is Friday, February 9. Chaperones are needed.

- Chair West stated that she will post a memo on Facebook requesting chaperones.
3. **Cornhole** is offered Friday evenings at CMB with Eric Thornton and is open to all. Registration is at 6:30 PM with bags flying at 7:00 PM.
 4. **Youth Basketball with Laura Sjolander.** This program is being held for the first time at the CMB for first through third graders and has been going well. Due to inclement weather in January, we have had to cancel and make the time up. We will continue with the program right after school on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5:00 PM through the month of February.
 - Sargent noted that the school now has a basketball program, and this CMB basketball program supplements the school activity.
 5. A **Paint & Sip** was held at CMB on January 18 with Katrina Wildenstein.
 - Sargent noted that Katrina is considering holding regular more frequent events, and the Paint & Sips are usually held on Pickleball nights from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.
 6. Our January **Craft & Vendor Fair** was held on Saturday, January 27, and went well. We will continue to advertise to get more shoppers in the door. Brandi Boucher continues to be our contact person and is doing an exceptional job. The next Craft & Vendor Fair is Saturday, February 24, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
 7. **Softball Clinics** at J.R. Morrill Building (JRM) have continued with no issues.
 8. The **Snowshoe Walk** was held at the Blackmount Country Club on Saturday, February 3 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Bob and Linda Stoddard welcomed us to their property, and it was determined that there were 55 to 60 people in attendance. The weather was pleasant with a cloudless sky and 25-degree temperature with little wind.
 9. The Parks & Recreation Department has a new program, **Open Gym**, which is on Monday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Once Youth BB is over, we may transition to Monday to Friday as it is a popular program. We will mix in with those coming for Home School Play on Wednesday.
 - Sargent noted that the Open Gym is actively attended, especially by families, and is a great addition to the CMB lineup.
 10. **Pickleball** continues Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 PM and Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00.
 11. Our last **Acoustic Music Jam** was on February 4th with many people in attendance. Parks & Recreation held an appreciation breakfast at Shiloh's in January for the musicians and volunteers who donate their time at the jams. The musicians did acknowledge the appreciation they have for the space, community, and ability to play. The jams happen because of their commitment and the dedication of Jim and Ruth Strout who volunteer as the organizers.
 - Sargent stated that the next Acoustic Music Jam is February 18.
 12. **Line Dance** class with Christy Tousha continues at CMB on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 PM.
 13. **Senior Stretch** classes continue daily from 10:00 to 11:00 AM Monday through Friday.
 - Sargent noted that two snowbird attendees to Senior Stretch are logging in from Florida.
 14. The **Antique Strollers** walk the CMB from 11:00 to 12:30 Monday through Friday.
 15. **Drums Alive** continues at Horse Meadow Senior Center on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.
 - Sargent for 2 years has continued to sit on the Advisory Council at the Senior Center, which meets the first Tuesday of the month.
 16. **Adult Volleyball** continues with Brittany Ingerson on Saturday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 at the Haverhill Cooperative Middle School (HCMS). Many thanks to HCMS and

Athletic Director Lori Taylor for partnering to make Volleyball happen for the community. This is a coed program by donation and is open to adults only.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Advisory Committee Presentation

- Sargent stated that the presentation was held on Friday, January 12 at 5:00 PM at JRM, and she thanked Longacre for being in attendance. Longacre said that Sargent gave a good presentation and noted that Parks & Recreation is the only department that brings money in.

2. Teen Night with DJ Kev on Friday, February 9 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM

- Sargent noted that volunteer chaperones are needed, and she had advertised on Facebook and using posters. Chair West volunteered to post a notice about needing chaperones.
- Sargent stated that the sixth graders were included, and excited as they had not previously been included.

3. Paint & Sip with Katrina on January 18

- Sargent noted that she and Mona would like to add more events and fill the calendar.

4. Snowshoe Walk at Blackmount Country Club on February 3

- Sargent noted that the Snowshoe Walk held from 6:00 to 8:00 PM was a beautiful night at 28 degrees, but very little snow with some mud and ice. Sargent stated that Bob and Linda Stoddard are wonderful hosts for letting the Town put on this event on their property.

5. Winterfest with Mountain Lakes Recreation on February 18

- Sargent stated that Winterfest will be held from 12:00 noon to 3:00 PM and is a gathering for sliding with an obstacle course at the Mt. Lakes Lodge. Snacks will be provided.

6. Safe Sitters Essentials Class, Friday, March 1

- Sargent met with Donna Hart from White Mountain Community College who confirmed a Friday, March 1, (last day of school vacation) babysitting class for 6th through 8th graders for 5 1/2 hours at \$50. The attendees will receive a gift bag and a completion card. Twelve students will be accepted for this first class.
- Chair West volunteered to advertise this at the school, and she stated that the last class of this type was 8 years ago with Donna Lee from UNH Extension Service.
- Sargent researched becoming a Safe Sitters instructor. She completed the required CPR course and will sit through classes with other instructors. Donna has received a \$200 anonymous donation and Sherri has asked the HPD Calendar Fund from the Haverhill Police Department to subsidize/purchase the materials ahead of the classes. Sargent stated that once certified, she can teach up to 12 students, which includes a Safe At Home program for third- through sixth-grade kids. Sargent stated that she's adding programs to help kids in the community.

7. Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30, in Haverhill Corner at 10:00 AM (for older kids) and 11:00 AM (for younger kids)

- Sargent has sent a message to Steve Robbins to ask if they would come with the Woodsville ladder truck to drop the eggs and is awaiting a response.

