

Parks & Recreation Committee

11/28/18 meeting

Current Agenda approved

Minutes approved

In attendance: Dustin Hunt , Megan Mayo, Bill Kernan, Greg Boglioli, Mark Wilch, Karen Dugay, Bill Ford, Zoe Kaslow, Carl Robinson, Scott Bourne

Scott Bourne (new program coordinator) introduced himself to committee

No public comments today

Discussed and reviewed budget reports

Dustin reviewed 17-18 snapshot report- no questions from the committee

Capital Budget (sample of projects were discussed) 19-20

- purchasing a gator-type vehicle to help with maintenance and management of the summer food program
- replacing signs at both rec parks (E.Midd and Midd)
- updating tot lot
- looking into purchasing a winter cover for pool, other improvements at the pool

Budget approved by the infrastructure committee, still needs final approval at town meeting

The general operating expenditure budget is close to level funded for next year

General operating revenue budget is expected to grow by \$15,000 next year

Q- do we need to add money for increased \$ for lifeguards? Dustin and Bill stated it is being kept in mind and total pool costs will be reviewed taking staffing concerns into account

Zoe shared her appreciation of the committee and her resignation from the teen center

- Making recommendations to Teen Center board to pause and reflect about Teen Center's role in the community. Hoping there can be a broader commitment to the population served by the center and to the mission and activity of the center.
- Creating an executive director binder for the person taking over the position. Recommending someone to take over for the rest of the fiscal year and hold off filling the position until the "pause and reflect" process can occur
- PC/C fiscal sponsorship ending soon, unclear who is taking over the role
- Discussed the need for 2 positions rather than 1 to direct the Center due to teaming and collaboration needs with the community

Robert E. Collins Award

- Since 1974, given at town meeting, to someone with significant contribution to Middlebury Parks and Recreation
- Dustin wants to nominate Tammi Swan- multiple contributions to multiple sports programs, put in hundreds of hours to the town and P&R programming- committee agrees, nomination stands

Program Updates

- RecTrac update is complete- ready to roll

- Turkey Trot
 - 240 runners participated
 - Scott was extremely helpful with the event
 - \$825 raised, 380 lbs. of food, and 3 turkeys donated to the Food Shelf
- Fee structure for instructors: 80% (current share of fees) is higher than national average, change in % will be rolled out over 2 years, with 75% in 1st and to 70% in 2nd year. Given time to potentially raise fees for classes. Will result in 10% decrease in P&R expenditures for programs.

Other Member Concerns

- Increased space usage for party and event rentals. Currently not requiring a deposit. Considering a 50% down payment for rental. Still wondering about if down payment should be refundable or until when. Remaining payment due after event. Credit cards are not an option currently.
 - Suggestion to use PayPal to be able to reserve space with credit card, larger discussion about potential of use of credit for this service or integration with RecTrac software
 - Suggestion to expect full payment before events
- Different organizations interested in connecting E.Midd and Midd with a bike path. Wondered about getting P&R committee support around this project. Working on a feasibility study (grant funded), using MALT and town property for path. There may be some federal funding available. 4 foot gravel path, discourage ATV use
- Bill Ford
 - Fundraising for Memorial Sports Center not met yet, not sure about next steps. Talked to NBM to borrow funds to complete fundraiser, in process, would need to be discussed with the Selectboard. Choice between using current funds and doing only partial work or borrowing money to able to do complete project
 - Arena football: not happening this summer- take a year and do some marketing, still a possibility for the following year
- Karen Dugay
 - June-August use for pop-up stores when roads are blocked due to railroad track construction- for \$20,000 – competition with Kookamunga for those dates.
 - Midnight Stroll- Dec 6 and 13 5-8 pm, flyers available, lots of Midd Money give aways- Teen Center open until 8 for both of those nights
 - Very Merry kicks off Saturday
 - Still needs some volunteer for these events- email Karen to volunteer
- Meeting adjourned at 6:30