

**STAFFORD RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Regular Meeting**

**Zoom Video Conference Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Date: Thursday, April 1, 2021**

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*[Handwritten Signature]*  
TOWN CLERK

**Members:** Chairman - Dave Bachiochi, Secretary - Becky Murphy, Harold Blake Hatch, Tom Topping, Todd Levesque, Richard Deary, Bill Utermarck

**Members Present:** Dave Bachiochi, Tom Topping, Richard Deary, Todd Levesque

**Members Absent:** Becky Murphy, Harold Blake Hatch, Bill Utermarck

**Recreation/Athletic Director:** Damian Frassinelli

**Guests:** Carol Parker, Barron Utter

- 1.) **Call Meeting to Order** – Dave called the meeting to order at 6:35pm via Zoom. The number of board members present 4 constitutes a quorum (4 of 7).
- 2.) **Review and Accept Minutes from previous meeting** – Minutes from last meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes with no noted changes was entered by Todd Levesque – Second by Tom Topping. Vote to accept minutes was unanimous.
- 3.) **Correspondence, letters & emails** – Visitor Carol Parker joined the call to express her disagreement with the potential cancellation of this upcoming summer recreation program at Staffordville Lake that is under consideration by the Selectman. Additional background is provided below in New Business.
- 4.) **Old Business** –
  - a. **Olympic Field STEAP grant status** – No change in status.
  - b. **Final 2021-2022 Budget proposal** – The Recreation Commission portion of the Selectman's budget is still tentative. Reference the Summer Program topic in New Business below.
  - c. **Major Improvements Priorities** – No changes were made to the standing priorities document. Continued interest in pursuing a final solution for a skating rink, and that will continue into the next season.
  - d. **Skating Rink Proposal** – All data has been captured in the proposal and the commission will review further in advance of next skating season. Topic to be tabled until June or September agenda.

**Schedule of Regular Meetings for CY 2021 (1st Thursday except July and August):**

Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 4, Apr 1, May 6, Jun 3, Sep 2, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2

- e. **Commission Membership** – We continue to seek additional members for the Recreation Commission.

**5.) New Business –**

- a. **Youth Sports Return To Play, Spring Forecast** – Spring youth sports look promising for baseball, softball and soccer outdoor sports. Similar COVID protocols and guidance will likely be in place as was followed in the fall. Youth lacrosse is NOT planning to operate this spring.
- b. **Summer program and camp activities** – There has been substantial discussion with the Selectman's office, the Recreation Director (Damian) and Carol Parker (former director of summer recreation program) about the logistics associated with holding the program during the Covid-19 pandemic. A summary of the constraints / concerns was shared with the commission, and include: an inability to respect social distancing at the facility during lunch and thunderstorm situations, funding for additional staffing and transportation, effective use of the school building, an inability to effectively downsize the participation (which isn't desirable anyway), and all within the context of an estimated registration of 175-180 participants and average daily attendance of 120. The commission would like to better understand what it would take to offer a program that does comply.  
**camp activities** Damian reported there was some interest in a wiffle ball weeklong day camp. The commission had authorized this last summer but the pandemic caused the plans to be abandoned. Damian will invite the camp representatives to a future meeting, if interest continues. While the commission voted to subsidize a portion of the camp fee in the past, we are going to assume that won't be the case this summer and will review that stance if we are approached.
- c. **Update from Recreation Director** – No further updates. In response to a question, Damian wasn't sure what the status of the Women's adult softball league was for this upcoming season. We expect to know more in May about status and Covid-19 protocols required.

**6.) Adjourn** – Motion: Todd Levesque moved to adjourn meeting.

Second: Dick Deary second the motion

Vote: The vote was unanimous, and meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted

*Dave Bachiochi*



Dave Bachiochi for Becky Murphy, Secretary

5/6/2021

Date



Signature

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