

**Town of Milton, Vermont**  
**Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday November 8, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.  
Milton Municipal Building Community Room

Commissioners in attendance: Kim Thompson, Ryan Bushey, Rod Moore, John Fitzgerald, Francine Tougas

Commissioners Absent: Julia

Staff in Attendance: Jenna Tucker Eugair, Ben Nappi

Public in Attendance: Issabella

**1. Call to Order – Rod 5:06pm**

**2. Amendments to Agenda –** Introduction to Fran. Welcome Fran Tougas to the Rec Commission Board!

**3. Public Forum –** Ryan introduced Issabella, a 10<sup>th</sup> grade student who is interested in joining the Rec Commission.

**4. Approval of Previous Minutes –** John made motion to approve previous minutes, Ryan seconded

**5. Recreation Report**

**a) Events:**

- **Costume Swap –** Costume swap went well with 24 donations. 6-7 Costumes were taken for use. Will consider extending time for donations next year.
- **Trunk or Treat–** 33 Trunks, 2 no shows. Estimated 2500+ attendees (clicker counter broke). This is up from 1800-2000 last year. No negative feedback, went very well considering volume of people. Flow of people moved along nicely, however there was still wait times. Received \$126 in donations. All extra Candy was used plus most of the donated candy from the PTA. Fire Truck got stuck due to wet field conditions, causing some damage to the field. Will consider moving larger vehicles to gravel area for next year. Other ideas for next year: Move to the High School and incorporating a Food Drive.
- **Spirited Homes –** 9-10 Homes participated. Simplified judging process. Went well.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Letters to Santa- Goal to deliver mailboxes to Banks the week of 11/13. Letters will be collected until 12/15. Volunteers needed to respond to letters.
  - Tree Lighting- to be held on 12/2. Advertising for the event will begin soon. Will be reaching out to Barrett’s Tree Service to decorate tree. Be on the lookout for large,

permanent Outdoor Holiday Decorations as well as a new Santa Chair. Will be asking Madeline's Bakery and/or Hannaford for cookie/cocoa donations.

- Holiday Decorating Contest- Still moving forward with this event. Thinking about ways to simplify or make easier for judges, for example spread judging over 2 nights.
- Holiday Vehicle Parade- Jenna to work with Police Dept to plan
- Ice Out- Online Portal for Orders is open. Early bird pricing of \$1 per ticker. Prices subject to change. Tickets to be sold at local business, Milton Craft Fair (11/11), and the Tree Lighting. Will promote the QR code for online sales.
- Winter Festival- Start thinking about Events for the Festival. The uncertainty of weather has Jenna thinking about a change in the model of the festival. Some ideas discussed where adult prom, grownup and me dance, talent show, pony rides, bounce houses, breakfast.

#### **b) Park Projects**

- Trails – Rick Sharp, Adam and Ryan Logan looked at topography maps working to identify the most mountain bike friendly ideas for paths. Ben worked on drainage and leaf removal on the yellow trail. Ryan inquired about the Lamoille River Walk area that was previously looked at for expanded use. Work on that project stalled. Jenna open to looking into hiring someone to resume the study and will reach out to Cymone in the Planning Office to discuss.
- Ice Rink- Installation of liner hope to be completed by Christmas.
- Large Wooden Chair in Park is in need of repairs (has holes)
- Field House Heating/Cooling- Quotes for mini split have been obtained. Pending Select Board approval.
- Weatherization of the field house has happened and is closed the for the winter season.

#### **c) FY25 Updates**

- Budget- First draft was submitted. Internal review to be the week of Nov 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>. Select Board review the weeks of Dec 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>. Hope to have locked in by January.
- Budget Highlights- Increase in amount for maintenance (trees, courts, fields), \$500 Increase asked for town funded scholarships. Increase in expense line for programming. Hockey asked for funds. No other sports organizations filled out a request.
- There was an increase in revenue. Revenue: \$66,900 up 5.53% from last year. Expenses: \$281,537 up 4.2% from last year. Net up 3.84%.
- Capital Improvement Project Requests:

- Ice Rink \$15,000
  - Skate Park \$65,000
  - Field Improvements \$50,000
  - Trails/Pathways TBD
  - Tennis Courts \$9000
  - Playground Chips \$3000
- Application for VOREC Grant was submitted in partnership with the Conservation Committee. Awarded Funds will help with trails/pathways.

#### **d) Winter Programming**

##### **Programming in Progress:**

- Age Well gatherings
- Thai Chi
- Square Dancing

##### **Potential Programming:**

- Holiday Wreath Making
- Crafts
- Kettle Bells
- Guitar/Ukulele Lessons
- CPR Classes

#### **f) Volunteer Opportunities Rec Commission work, and Recruitment**

- Continue recruitment efforts for joining Rec Commission. Also keep ears/eyes out for community members with a skill/talent that would be willing to share with the community.
- Upcoming Events: Tree Lighting, Letters to Santa

#### **6. Next Meeting**

Tentative for 12/13 @ 5pm. Possible room conflict. Jenna will advise of date/room change if needed.

**7. Adjournment of Recreation Commission Meeting** – Ryan made a motion to Adjourn, Fran seconded. Adjourned at 6:43pm