**Director’s Report for March 1, 2021**

**Programs**

Our limited program offerings due to COVID-19 may be few but have had very good participation in spite of weather difficulties. Our Cross Country Lessons at Bolduc Park wrapped up after having to be extend a couple of weeks due to poor snow conditions. Sue has seen very consistent participation in our weekly Senior Walking program. The addition of incorporating a Poker Walk into this program has added a little fun for the participants and has been well received. After a delayed start due to inconsistent ice conditions early in the season, our curling program was finally able to begin the end of January. The ice conditions have been great through the month of February and the curling program has been going very well with good numbers throughout. Weather has also had an impact in our Adult Snowshoe programs. Lack of snow delayed this program until early February. After a great turnout our first week, we had to cancel the second hike due to poor driving conditions due to a snowstorm. That said, we co-sponsored a family hike with the Library the week before school vacation week and we’re hoping conditions will allow us to extend this program into early March. We have a number of additional program scheduled for the February Vacation week. These include our Annual Cardboard Box Sled Derby, a virtual “Nailed It” baking competition we’re co-sponsoring with the Library and a Family Full Moon Snowshoe Hike. One other program we had looked to offer, a Code Wiz Minecraft program was canceled due to lack of participation. The numbers for the programs we’ve run the past month are as follows:

* Bolduc Park Cross Country Ski Lessons – 12 Participants
* Senior Walking – Averaging about 10-12 Participants per week
* Weeks Woods Adult Snowshoe Hike – 16 Participants
* Adult Curling – 22 Total Participants
* Feb. 16 Adult Snowshoe Hike – Canceled due to driving conditions
* Ramblin’ Vewe Family Snowshoe Hike (w/Library) – 12 Participants

Planning and registration is underway for a number of additional upcoming winter programs. In addition to our on-going programs, we have a number of other upcoming programs planned. We have three programs scheduled over February Vacation week. We’re looking into trying to offer a Code-Wiz coding program as an after-school activity since we didn’t have much success with the offer over vacation week. We’re also looking into trying to offer some virtual St. Patrick’s Day activities. Here is a list of planned programs for the end of February and March and the dates they will run:

* Adult Snowshoe Hikes will continue on Tuesday mornings as conditions allow
* Senior Walking Program continues on Wednesday mornings
* Adult Curling will continue on Thursday evenings as conditions allow
* Annual Cardboard Box Sled Derby on February 24th
* Virtual “Nailed It!” Baking Competition with Library on February 24th
* Family Full Moon Snowshoe Hike on February 26th
* Code Wiz After School Coding programs TBA
* Virtual St. Patrick’s Day Programs TBA

**Facilities**

Conditions at the Arthur A. Tilton Ice Rink have been very good over the past month. We’ll plan to maintain the rink as long as temperatures allow.

The gate to the Gilford Beach is open and available for ice fishing access. This will remain open through the end of March.

We’ve begun to solicit sealed bids for tennis court re-surfacing services. The deadline to submit bids is April 5th. Our hope is to have the courts resurfaced this coming June.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene, Gilford Parks and Recreation Director