

GILFORD PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

March 2, 2020

Present: Herb Greene, Tracey Blandford, Peter Allen, Lisa Manz- Buckley, Thom Francoeur, Dave Smith, Rick Nelson, Jim Glover, and Miriam York

The meeting was called to order at 5:30.

1. Tracey and Peter were appointed as voting members until Rick and Jim arrived.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the February 3, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

3. Program Assistant Update:

The candidate that was chosen didn't work out so there is a vacancy again. Herb will put ads in the papers and a new round of interviews will take place.

4. Programs Update:

Herb reviewed the Directors report. The February vacation activities went off as planned. The youth basketball all-stars program was discussed and Thom handed out his ideas for guidelines and this was also discussed and revised.. The Francoeur-Babcock tournament is this coming week beginning on Thursday afternoon.

5. Cal Ripken requests update:

The Board of Selectmen approved four items of Cal Ripken's request as recommended by the Recreation Commission: replacing the dugouts at the Francoeur Field, increasing the height of the fencing along the third baseline at Stonewall Park, repainting the dugouts and buildings at the Village Field and Stonewall Park to Gilford blue, and installing a scoreboard at Stonewall Park, contingent upon approval of installation location and design layout by the Recreation Commission. The last item recommended by the Commission – the restriction of dogs at the Francoeur Field is still under review by the Selectmen following a public hearing on the matter.

6. Stonewall Park:

Herb was unsuccessful in making contact with any of the references Mike Murray suggested. Jim made a motion – “To recommend denying Mike Murray's request to rename Stonewall Park in honor of his father”. The motion was seconded by Rick and the vote was 4-0 with one abstain. The motion passed.

7. 2020 Budget:

The deliberative session had no changes to the budget and the Town Vote will take place on Tuesday March 10th at the GYC.

8. Ice Rink:

The ice conditions have varied depending on the weather. The curling program had three weeks of play with 15-16 people involved. The Convenient Care MD banners are up but one is in violation of Town ordinances as to its location.

9. Gilford Beach:

Herb said there is one part time gatekeeper position available, and several lifeguard positions need to be filled. The building trades class at the H.S. is building one life guard stand for us and will hopefully be able to build a second one. The request for proposals on the playground equipment at the beach has a deadline of March 30th

10. Facility Use Requests:

There were none.

11. Other Business:

The next meeting will be held on **March 30th at 5:30** so that the Commission can review the proposals for the beach playground equipment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam A. York
Secretary

Enclosure: Director's Report

Director's Report for March 2, 2020

Programs

Our Adult Volleyball program has been up and down due to scheduling issues. We've had to cancel a couple weeks due to scheduling conflicts with the school and weather issues as well as missing a week due to school vacation. Our three all-star teams have each played in one tournament so far, with the 5-6 Boys and 5-6 Girls having played in the Lou Athanas Tournament and the 3-4 Coed team having played in the Franklin Tournament. Each team will wrap up their season at our Francoeur/Babcock Tournament March 5-8. Our Senior Moment-um program continues to see good participation in most activities. Our Senior Strides walking program has seen pretty good attendance with the exception of one week when weather was not great. Our Adult curling Program started later in the season than usual due to inconsistent ice conditions, but we've had steady participation each week. Our Full Moon Snowshoe Hike ended up being a flop as weather resulted in no attendance. We did co-sponsor a family snowshoe hike with the Library at Ramblin' Vewe Farm that had good attendance. Our February Vacation Fun Day which includes a trip to the Movies to watch the Sonic the Hedgehog movie will be held on Tuesday of vacation week and we're planning to run our Cardboard Box Sled Derby on Wednesday of vacation week. The numbers for the programs we've run the past month are as follows:

- Senior Moment-um Water Street Café Trip – 23 Participants
- Adult Volleyball – 15-18 Participants each week
- Senior Walking – 5-10 Participants per week.
- Youth Basketball All-Star Teams – 35 Total Players
- Senior Moment-um Game Day and Appetizers – 4 Participants (many didn't attend due to weather)
- Full Moon Family Snowshoe Hike – No show due to weather
- Adult Curling Program – 15 Total Participants
- Senior Moment-um Breakfast and a Movie – 14 Participants
- Ramblin' Vewe Snowshoe Hike (w/Library) – 15 Participants
- February Vacation Fun Day – 30 Participants Registered (Program Full)

Planning and registration is underway for a number of early spring programs. Our Annual Francoeur/Babcock Basketball Tournament will be held March 5-8 with teams from Belmont, Franklin, Gilmanton, Laconia and Sanbornton joining our teams from Gilford. Sue has planned a number of upcoming Senior Moment-um programs planned including the Spring Dessert and Show program that we co-sponsor with the GHS Drama Club. We are looking into the possibility of working with the Gilford Youth Center to offer some Pre-School Programs. Our Celtics Bus Trip that we are co-sponsoring with Belmont is scheduled for mid-March and is close to full. Tickets for our Red Sox bus trip in July will be going on sale in mid-March. Registration has also opened for a number of our Summer Camp programs. We also have a number of on-going programs that will continue through or will end in March. Here is a list of planned programs for late February and March as well as the dates they will run:

- February Vacation Fun Day on February 25th
- Cardboard Box Sled Derby on February 26th
- Adult Curling wraps up on February 27th

- Senior Moment-um Patrick's Pub Trip on March 2nd
- Francoeur/Babcock Basketball Tournament March 5th-8th
- Senior Moment-um Bingo and Appetizers on March 9th
- Senior Moment-um St. Patty's Day Breakfast Buffet on March 16th
- Celtics Bus Trip on March 18th
- Senior Moment-um Game Day and Pizza on March 23rd
- Senior Moment-um Dessert and Show Program on March 26th
- Senior moment-um Baseball Day Lunch and Movie on March 30th
- Adult Pick-up Volleyball runs every Tuesday
- Pre-School Program TBD

Facilities

The Arthur A. Tilton Gilford Ice Rink will remain open as long as temperatures and conditions allow. One sponsorship banner for Convenient Care MD has been installed and the other will be put up as soon as conditions allow.

The gate at the Gilford Town Beach will remain open for winter recreation activities through the end of the month of March.

The Board of Selectmen approved Cal Ripken's Request to replace the dugouts at the Francoeur Field and DPW will help with the demolition and removal of the old dugouts as soon as they have time to do so.

The RFP for new playground equipment at the Gilford Town Beach has gone out with a deadline of March 30th for interested firms to submit their proposals.

Sincerely,

Herb Greene, Gilford Parks and Recreation Director