

## RECREATION COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 11, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cindi Beede, Bonnie Jones, Bruce Lafond, Terri Robbitts, and Catie Caisse. Mrs. Jones convened the meeting at 7:00.

Mr. Christopher Holman and Mr. Chris Silvia stopped by to discuss the possibility of a hiking/biking/snowmobile trail project. Mr. Holman mentioned the town of Swanzeay and the work they have done to improve the trails that run throughout their town. Mr. Silvia mentioned the work the SnoMoles do each year to maintain the Rails to Trails. Mr. Holman proposed the Recreation Department become involved in such a project and sit on a committee to explore options. He mentioned grant funding and proposed becoming part of the 2012 Healthy Monadnock Initiative. Bonnie Jones agreed it would be nice to have better trails in town. Mr. Holman suggested we call representatives from Swanzeay and invite them to our next meeting, he suggested we contact the Conservation Commission and proceed to form a committee, and get Carol Ann Rochleau involved in a discussion. The Recreation Commission then agreed that this was a huge project that they were not willing to lead at this time. They decided that they would probably have a representative on a committee, if one was formed in the future. They said they may discuss it in further meetings.

1. Youth Basketball: The total number of participants for the 2016 Basketball Season are at an all time low. 35 kids have registered for the season. A clinic was held for kids in grades 2-6<sup>th</sup> on Saturday January 9<sup>th</sup> from 9-10:00 at Emerson School. Practices will be held once a week and games on each Saturday through February 20<sup>th</sup>. The bulk of the numbers are in the younger grades. The Recreation Commission agree that the numbers are consistent with declining enrollment at schools and the general consistent lack of participant for activities seen over the last few years. The Commission agreed to revisit these numbers for future programming and try to come up with some solutions.
2. Yoga: Sharon Laflamme gathered information from Yoga class participants to determine whether there was enough interest to offer a winter Yoga session. Only 6 participants said they were interested. The Commission then decided to forego a winter session, but try for early spring. Mrs. Beede will contact Mrs. Laflamme to schedule a session beginning in March.
3. Women's Open Gym: Tricia Toomey inquired about offering basketball to women. She stated she knows of a group interested in playing. After speaking with Emerson School personnel, Mrs. Beede thinks Wednesday will be optimal for Women's Open Gym. She now waits to hear back from Ms. Toomey who is on vacation to confirm. The Recreation Commission is agreeable.
4. Winter Festival: The Recreation Commission decided not to hold a Winter Festival this year due to the lack snow and unseasonal temperatures. They decided to focus on the ice rink and getting the community to use that.
5. Ice Rink: Set up is now scheduled for Saturday Jan 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Christi Filipi and Bonnie Jones have committed to help.

6. Self Defense: Mrs. Beede will call Sean Cavanaugh to schedule a self defense class in March.
7. Caregivers/Infants/Toddlers: The Caregivers/Infants/Toddlers program will now be offered at the Fitzwilliam Town Library. The Library isn't open on Fridays, but they Trustees are willing to give us access to the meeting room and bathrooms for our program.

Mrs. Nancy Carney stopped by to offer the Depot for programming. She suggested it be used as a warming station if snowshoeing or other activities were held behind the FireStation.

Mr. Lafond made a motion to adjourn at 8:50pm. Mrs. Jones seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.