



Brighton Recreation Committee

5:30 pm on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, minutes

1. Call the meeting to order – Meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm
 - Present: Maria Perry, Jess Geary, Heather McElroy, Bev Pepin, Michelle Wilcox,
 - Virtual: Mike Strait, Sheila Alabarces, Becky Clarke, Sue Foy
2. Update the agenda - None
3. Financial Update – Shared the latest financial status
4. Roles Membership Document – Shared the document which was created. Discussed that some of this would not be public while other bits would be – and many tasks/roles could be trimmed down to make less intimidating. **Action** – asked everyone to take a look at it and provide feedback
5. Website updates – T has been able to do some of the deletions. Needs photos. Needs to determine where the information request is routed to get that fixed **action: heather** – to pull photos on card to provide to T
6. Swim Lessons Update – Lengthy discussion regarding swim lessons. Despite advertising via fb, at the high schools, at the water programs, we have not been able to find a lifeguard. Couatts lifeguard certification is not until June 18. If at that time a selected candidate did not pass, we would have to cancel lessons. At that point, it is too late to cancel and not have a negative effect on area parents. **Decision** – for this year, as the public swim lessons are estimated at \$180 per kid to have someone come here, even with supplementation from us, this is not cost effective (4 days of lessons). Swim lessons will not occur in town for 2024. We will continue through the summer into next year to find a sustainable solution. **Action** Mike and heather to compile a list of options for families as well as costs to push out via social media.
7. Summer/fall Programming - We had another person reach out regarding the open gym host. We will discuss qualifications with town manager to determine if this person is viable. **Action** – Heather to email Town manager.
 - Heather provided a list of outdoor events as a tentative schedule. Discussion around if insurance will cover if the event is outside of town limits. If that is determined, we can move out of town hikes to in-town at state park and we will pay the admission fee for participants.
 - Looking for people to help host biking as it is popular around the area, however, not something in the skillset of current volunteers
 - Paddleboard updates: The program will be kicked off soon and boards will be available for rent. BR will host an intro to paddleboarding as a kickoff event for this. 2 at a time, 30 minutes – basics of sitting, standing and paddling.
 - Discussed a soccer skills day – Maria to obtain contact information for someone who may be interested in a skills day. This is not designed to be a league, as we do not have the staffing and there is an existing league in the area. Target audience is those who do not have the ability to go out of town for soccer leagues and are too young to do those. **Action: maria to provide contact information, heather to do outreach . update: heather sent email on 5/12**
 - Sue foy suggested a t-ball league for kids

- Late fall/winter – we will need space to hold open gym and fitness classes. Heather to bring outreach to the school now so that we can ensure that is up and running by fall
 - Summer ball program – Heather removed one severely worn ball from the rack. The balls have not only stayed in place, but extra balls have been added to the collection. Families and groups of kids are being seen regularly at the park and basketball courts and use is visibly increased. Our community needs to be recognized for their care of the equipment and additional equipment such as tennis and shuffleboard will be added. We discussed that we are aware that at some point this summer things may change and we may see some of these items disappear. It's important to note that we will replace the items. Our community is clearly taking care of the items and if visitors do not, we need to acknowledge our role and replace. The community has been ultra responsible.
8. walking map – Heather shared a copy of a “walking routes” map from Lyndon. All agreed something like this would be great for downtown Island Pond, because sometimes it is hard to know what are good routes. It was mentioned that if you use the walking path to go to the end and created a staircase at the end, it is a .70 mile walk around our downtown. **Action:** Heather to map out some options of routes with mileage using a GPS tracking device and reach out to town manager regarding the process needed to get another stair case installed at town beach.
9. Pondathon –
- Sunday of labor day weekend – we will need additional volunteers as some members are already committed to events
 - We will do the pondathon and canoe race
 - Due to the limited volunteers, we are looking for another group to host the foosball. We have reached out to baseball. If they say no, let's try snowmobile club and ATV clubs.
 - Discussed the fixed costs and how they are increasing. To keep this as a fundraiser, we must make some changes, which may include the number of giveaways as well as the entrance fee
 - Tshirt – we need to get a price -discussion was to find if there is a lower cost shirt color and go with that – leaning towards a green color
 - Shirt – Mike to reach out for the logo for the front
 - Donors – Heather to pull the list of prior sponsors and begin drafting a letter for the event
 - Sheriff's – Mike to reach out for coverage
 - Timing clock/app – Heather to reach out to a border running club
 - Our goal should be to raise approximately 5k to ensure we have the funds needed to have sustainable programs
10. Community Meeting – Discussed the importance of a town meeting for input. Tentative date August 10
11. Rec room / inventory – Discussed the need to do a full inventory of what we have for equipment and items. We need to determine if some can be discarded or sold. May 16 at 5:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm