

Recreation Committee Mins 11/27/2007

Hopkinton Recreation Committee

November 27, 2007

(These minutes are unofficial until approved at the next committee meeting)

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM at Columbia Hall

Members in attendance: Vernon Miller, Dan Rinden (arrived at 6:20pm), Louise Carr, Valerie Carr, Jim Martin and Recreation Director Justin La Vigne. ~

Approval of 10/30/07 Recreation Committee minutes:

The minutes from 10/30/07 were approved.

Final Wrap up of Haunted House :

Justin announced that we needed to have one more day to finish cleaning up the cabins. The main cabin and back cabin need to be cleaned and all supplies need to be stored. We will schedule a date in January to have final cleanup. Louise mentioned the coffin on the front porch needs to be moved. Justin will do that. Justin has just about finished sending out the thank you letters to all of our volunteers. Vernon will get Justin the remaining addresses he needs to complete the letters.

Jim mentioned that he would like to see evaluation of the Haunted House to inquire if the event is worth putting on. He would like to know if the public enjoys attending and if they will come back. He mentioned that it is a lot of work to put it together and we need to know if the Recreation Committee is doing a good job. He also mentioned that it would be good to have evaluations of a lot of the recreation department's programs. The committee suggested that maybe next year Justin includes in the budget more money for mailing to conduct a mail to home survey for the town.

Justin said that he would put together a generic evaluation for next meeting for the committee to look at.

Existing Programs Update:

Justin updated the committee on existing programs

Tumbling Tots (ages 2-5) is a hit and the kids along with the parents/nannies are spreading the word. Classes on Thursdays at 3pm and 10am and are a drop in status costing \$3.00 per class. The instructor is a professional circus performer and she is great with the

kids. The attendance ranges from 3 – 10 kids per class. The Bow Times will be coming to the class on Thursday to write a feature article about the success of the program.

Motion in Art is in the process of being developed and is taught by Sarah Greene who teaches the Tots class. It will begin in January and will be an art class that hopes to draw artist from town, high school and New England college.

Red Cross Babysitting class has 12 kids signed up and has already had one class, the next is scheduled for December 2.

Columbia Hall Use - Justin is still looking into having a movie night there. Vernon will look into information about purchasing a screen and projector. Justin has booked the Hopkinton Independent School to use the stage two time per week for their theater program.

Senior Center – Justin has spending a lot of time working at the senior center. He has been planning programs and getting activities started.

New Programs:

Breakfast with Santa – Will be held December 15 from 8am – 11am at Columbia Hall. Justin has issued a PSA to all the local newspapers and media sources. He has flyers going home with the school children this coming week. Vernon has offered to be Santa Claus and he has a suit already. We all decided that we would get to Columbia Hall at 6am to set-up and cook. The menu was decided to be eggs, bacon, pancakes, home fries, juice/coffee and muffins. Valerie will be in charge of crafts and Patrice will assist. Lillian will greet the guests, collect money, and have them sign in. Louise, Jim, Dan, Marilyn, Justin and some other volunteers will cook, serve and clean up. Justin will do the shopping for the event. Justin will put signs up around town, at the Pine street island and in near the Cracker Barrel. Justin will let the recreation committee know when is a good time to decorate and contact them. Justin will make an evaluation for the event and Lillian will have guests fill it out at they leave.

Holiday Lights Contest – Justin announced that the recreation department will have it's first Holiday Lights Contest. The contest encourages residents to decorate their houses and enter them to be judged. The judging will take place on December 13 from 6-8:30pm. Justin asked that the recreation department help in the judging.

Ballroom Dancing classes – Justin is working to set this up for January.

Ski Trip – It was discussed that the attendance on ski trips have been low and the deals for groups is not as good as going alone. Justin will look into seeing if it is worth going on one for February.

Other Business:

Jim asked about HYSA and the relationship with the recreation department. He was wondering why we don't put their information and schedules up on the recreation website. Justin has talked with board members from HYSA and they have not expressed an interest in putting info on our site. Jim suggested maybe putting a link from the recreation site to the HYSA website. The recreation department has a great relationship with HYSA and they provided a lot for the community.

Valerie suggested the recreation department host a dance for 5th and 6th grade students at Columbia Hall. She will into cost and logistics to see if it is possible.

Louise asked if we could host another Race Car race at Columbia Hall. She said they had a successful one last year and we should do one in January. Justin will look into a date. Maybe January 19th.

Our next meeting was scheduled for December 25th @ 6:00 PM at Columbia Hall.

Since that is Christmas day we all decided that we would reschedule it for January 2 @6:00pm at Columbia Hall.

We are adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justin La Vigne