

## Hopkinton Recreation Committee

### Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2009

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

Meeting called to order at 6:38 PM at the Slusser Senior Center.

Members in attendance: Louise Carr, Valerie Carr, Jim Martin, Jessica Scheinman, Selectmen Representative Chris Lawless and Recreation Director Justin La Vigne. The guest attendees were Steve Crawford, Patrice La Vigne and Merle Dustin.

#### Approval of 3/31/09 Recreation Committee minutes:

The minutes from 3/31/09 were approved.

#### **Business:**

Justin gave an update on the Skate Park. Three Local Government Center representatives came out and assessed the park, recommending it be shut down. The BOS officially shut it down a few weeks ago. Bob Carr, the man who originally donated the funds for the park, has been working with a crew to do some repairs. On Friday, the LGC came back and said it could be reopened, and although it still needs minor repairs, the park should be fine through the summer. Chris said he is working with some skaters and Bob to consider competition and fundraising efforts. Justin said he will try again to put it in the 2010 budget. He said also he would like to cover the ramps during the winter to better preserve them.

Justin talked about camp scholarships. Louise just sent out a letter soliciting donations from banks, churches & newspapers this past week and already, the department received \$610 from individuals, which equals about 1 week of camp for 7 kids.

Marketing of recreation programs has continued to be a challenge. The *Goffstown News* is now changing advertising recreation events to only once per month. Justin did finally figure out why the *Concord Monitor* hasn't run any information because there was a glitch in their system and they were not getting any of Justin's emails. It's fixed now and they will run the info. The other good news is that all 3 principals are now sending out the Rec info to their list serves. Additionally, the Rec Department's own list serve has now grown to 316. Also, the Town employees are discussing putting together a 1-pg newsletter with info. Jim mentioned that the Town should look into the Constant Contact newsletter program and Chris said that Greener Hopkinton already bought the program. Justin will look into that and discuss it with the other Town employees.

#### **Update on Past/Ongoing/Upcoming Programs:**

*Easter Egg Hunt* - There were more than 300 people there. The committee agreed that it was good to split the group up 3 ways, but it might be better to split them even more. Justin said Easter is in mid-April, he thinks, so hopefully we can try hard to hold the hunt outside. Justin said collecting the eggs was a good idea because the Boys and Girls Club used them. Also, it was good to have the donation box out—the department collected \$50, which help offset some of the costs. Another suggestion is to have registration at the back door as well as the front. The committee talked about having a "golden ticket" egg with extra special prizes for next year. Also, must include "bring own basket" on PSA.

*Gazebo performers* – Justin still wants to hire a kids performer to perform at the gazebo. Last meeting, he discussed doing it June 24, the last day of school. But the performer, T-Bone, was not available. Plus, with the Boys & Girls Club doing something that day, plus camp counselor/lifeguard training, it may not be the best day. So he is still looking into booking a date. Louise talked about possibly booking the River Band to play and some teen bands that played at Columbia Hall in the past.

*Red Cross/Home Alone/Babysitting* – Justin said he plans to offer these programs when school lets out, but he's just not sure where yet.

*Yoga* – The classes on Mondays and Fridays went over really well and will end in May, then start back up in the fall.

*Lacrosse* – It's in full spring now with 80 participants.

*Discounted Fisher Cats Tickets* – June 27, cost is \$5. This game will also have fireworks and one Hopkinton/Contoocook resident will throw out the first pitch.

*Discounted Stars on Ice* – He bought 20 tickets, but only sold 12 (leftovers went to Human Services), so Justin said he probably wouldn't buy these again.

*Circus discount tickets* – Will definitely buy tickets for this in October.

*Red Sox Discount Tickets* – Justin only has 6-8 tickets left for the May 19 game and it should sell out. Justin has only sold a few tickets for the Oct. 1 game.

*Movie in the Park* – June 13 is the Muppet Movie at 8:30pm at Houston Fields. The Recreation Department will sell concessions again. The second movie is on August 15 – Journey to the Center of the Earth.

*Baseball Card Show* – Jim said he is tabling the event for now, but would still like to do it before the end of the baseball season. He would like to get Brian Tookesbury for the event. Also, Anne had previously mentioned that you can get the World Series Trophy for the day, so Jim will look into that.

*Beading Program* – Justin is just waiting for Anne to give him dates.

*British Soccer Camp* – It's the last week in July and so far, there are 50 kids signed up.

*Fun Fair* – It's on Saturday at Harold Martin from 10-2, but Justin is still not sure if he is attending. Last year, he moved his table inside and that worked well since he has a lot of handouts. But this year, the woman in charge said he cannot be inside, so he is not sure if it would be a good idea.

*Hiring Lifeguards/Camp Counselors* – Justin said he had more than 80 people apply for 3 guard positions and 5 counselor positions. He is wrapping up the hiring now.

*PTA Craft Fair* – Justin thinks the PTA is still having this at the Senior Center at the same time as the Library's Book Fair. But he hasn't heard an update since he gave them the green light.

*Senior Prom* – The National Honor Society is putting on a "senior" prom for the seniors at the SSC. Sunday, May 3 from 6-9pm. This is the first time and seniors have signed up.

*Indoor Soccer* – Decided to continue the team through June.

*Outdoor Soccer* – Will start in July on Sundays at 5pm. Pick-up players.

*Independence Day Event* – Louise gave an update and the planning meetings are every other Wednesday (April 29).

#### **Other Business:**

Justin said the committee needs to plan a Cabin Clean-up Day. He will send out an email with some dates.

Justin mentioned that one Eagle Scout is working on the main cabin and the bathroom cabin as his project.

Steve was a guest at the meeting and is interested in joining the committee. The committee voted about accepting him and all approved. Justin will send a letter to the BOS. Next meeting, Jim Lewis will be another guest who is interested.

We are adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Justin La Vigne