

HOPKINTON RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022

Present: Mark N., Paul O., Joyce B., Paula S., Louise C.

Absent: Ann M., Flo D., Jim L., Glenn S.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. March 29, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as written.

There was a great turnout for the Easter Bunny and the egg scramble. Fortunately, the weather cooperated and did not rain until after the event. This year's Easter Egg Scramble had a few glitches and we discussed the reasons we thought that attributed to it and some possible solutions to try next year. We could recruit a few parents from each group to assist the Interact Club volunteers to hold back the kids until it is their turn. There was confusion among the volunteers so every group started at the same time so some families had older children that did not make it down in time for the older kids to gather any eggs. A few were held out and a mini hunt was recreated for the ones we were able to identify. Paula collected the parents' emails of children who had missed their age group's egg hunt and delivered Easter Baskets to them as a special treat to make up for the disappointment. The microphone was not working properly and most parents were already in the field so the announcements were not heard. We could use a white board to indicate the times each group should line up. It was suggested to premix the candy and toy eggs into boxes prior to bringing to Harold Martin to eliminate all of one kind being spread at one location. It was also suggested to spread out the wall games a little more and have outside games on nice days. A few back-drop is needed for next year. Perhaps a lattice panel with spring flowers intertwined through the slats. The food purchase next year can be adjusted some. One large pot of coffee was enough. Purchase only one 2lb. bag of carrots, about 20 bags of donuts was about right, maybe less chocolate and more powdered. The extra snacks were not used.

The 4th of July fundraising was going well. Still need to follow up with the businesses that have committed and remind them to send their logo to Paula. The balloonist, face painter and musicians have been hired. Looked at the EZ Bounce New England website and decided to rent the basketball shoot and the 40' obstacle course. We will wait to rent generators after Louise confirms if there are outlets on the light posts. The Boy Scouts will not be doing the BBQ this year. Louise will reach out to a few groups to see if they would like to do it as a fundraiser. If not, then the Depot committee will be asked if they could add burgers and hot dogs to their chicken BBQ menu. Marcia has a younger group of 4-H students so they may not sell ice cream but do something else. She will contact Louise after they have their first meeting. We are going to need more volunteers this year because we are adding more games. We will see if Jim could recruit some fire explorers, each member asked to try to recruit at least 1 person. The churches used to assist so they will be contacted to see if there is any interest. Paula mentioned that the parking lot at Riverway Park may get paved this summer so Dan needs to be contacted to find out if and when. Due to the time it takes to write letters for donations for the silent auction sheets and gift baskets it was recommended to not do it as no one has the time to commit to it.

The Murder Mystery Dinner is starting to take shape. The Recreation Department will apply for a one - day special liquor license. Mark knows a person who is TIF certified who will be the bartender and Whistle Pig Rye will be coming to do a tasting of a variety of whiskeys. Mark will provide Paula with the names and DOB so she can submit the liquor license application. Mark and Louise will meet at the

Slusser Center to work out the seating, menu, ticket pricing and theme. They will report back to the committee at the next meeting.

Recreation Director Updates:

Still in need of 2 pond staff and a summer camp director for 3 weeks. If one isn't hired then Paula will have to fill the position herself. There has been a renewed interest by the community to get out and be active. Lots of new programs being offered and some have been very popular so additional workshops were added.

Next meeting will be May 30th. It was decided to start the meeting at Riverway Park so the 4th of July event layout could be reviewed. Depending on the weather, we may return to the Slusser Center for the remaining meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Louise Carr