

Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
March 20, 2019
6:30pm, Pearson Road Community Center

Members Present: Elizabeth Shelton, Ruth Arsenault, Everett Clark, and Kristin Thomas

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle-Parks and Recreation Director

Public Present: Cory Halvorsen, Revs United Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairwoman, E. Shelton.

Approval of Agenda

K. Thomas made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, motion was seconded by E. Clark and passed.

Approval of Minutes

K. Thomas made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 24, 2019 as written; motion was seconded by R. Arsenault and passed.

Appointment with Cory Halvorsen- Revs United Soccer Program

The Commission invited Cory Halvorsen to the meeting to discuss the 2018 Recreation Soccer Program. The groups discussed feedback that was received including: survey results, the soccer program being fun, players learned new skills, the coaches were good, the Jamboree was great and a nice addition to the program, the website was difficult to use, communication between parents/coaches/administration was challenging and there was confusion about practice field space in Alton vs Barnstead.

Mr. Halvorsen provided information about the tools and resources that are available to coaches including: training, apps for drills, coaches portal, lesson plans, coaching course, parent contact information, etc. 92 players from Alton participated in the 2018 Revs Soccer Program. There was discussion that the Alton coaches were familiar with the Parks and Recreation style of communication (personal/paper forms) and the Revs style (online/tech savvy) was different. It was noted that there were glitches with the online registration, and email's sent but not received to parents. Mr. Halvorsen expressed appreciation for the program feedback, and noted that he would have liked to have addressed the issues as they arose so they could have been resolved, instead of hearing about comments post-season. The group discussed the challenges with addressing concerns when they are not brought to the attention of the Revs Director or Parks and Recreation Department during the season. K. Thomas provided additional feedback on different styles of communication and coaches expectations. K. Thomas noted that her family enjoyed the Revs program and what they provided but in some instances, emails were not answered and coaches did not have the information to answer questions the parents had about practices. It was noted that sometimes things slip by but Mr. Halvorsen has a system in place that monitors emails and voicemails to the Revs and when they

are replied to, and he will follow up if replies are not provided. Mr. Halvorsen said he is also available to all of the coaches for them to contact him directly should they have questions or concerns or need answers. It was noted that the Revs operates with volunteers and the person who would return messages has a job and people should allow up to 24 hours for a reply. Mr. Halvorsen said he will connect with coaches more regularly to check in and see if they need anything.

The Commission asked about the confusion over being told the Alton team practices were held in Barnstead on the Barnstead fields because the Alton coaches were told the Alton fields were not available for them to use for the entire season. Mr. Halvorsen confirmed that the coaches were informed practices in Alton would be able to begin after August 23, and for the coaches to contact the field director to set up practice times in Alton. Mr. Halvorsen said the Alton coaches did play on Town of Alton fields and one Alton team practiced in Barnstead before August 23 because they wanted extra practice time.

The groups discussed the importance of a community recreation soccer program, and for the opportunity for children to play and learn to love a sport. In an effort to move forward and address concerns and provide solutions to the items that were brought to the groups attention, the Commission noted the following items they would like to see for the program: Alton families would play in Alton; Alton soccer teams would use Town of Alton facilities; Coaches would support the soccer program and contact the Revs Director if they had concerns that needed to be addressed; the Parks and Recreation Department would partner with the Revs United to provide a community Recreation Soccer Program.

The Commission discussed forming an Agreement with the Revs United Soccer Program to include program expectations, accountability, and providing a recreation soccer program that meets the needs of the community. The Commission stated they are confident in moving forward to the 2019 Soccer season that the concerns will be addressed and the program will be monitored for meeting the expectations of the Alton community. R. Arsenault made a motion to approve the 2019 Partnership with the Revs United Soccer Program with an Agreement in place stating both parties expectations, motion was seconded by K. Thomas and passed. E. Clark abstained.

Public Input (limited to 3 minutes per person- agenda items only)

There was no public input.

Old Business

Quannippi Trail Signage- K. Troendle reported that the Quannippi Trail signs were received.

Winter Fun Event- The Commission discussed the lack of attendance at the Outdoor Winter Fun Event, and its recommendation to not sponsor the event in 2020. The event was designed to kick off Winter Carnival Weekend but unfortunately the event information was not included in the Winter Carnival advertising.

Egg Hunt- The Egg Hunt will be held on April 13 for ages 10 and under at B&M Park (Alton Bay Community Center in the event of inclement weather). Volunteers can arrive to help hide eggs at 8:00am at B&M Park. The Egg Hunt participants will be divided by age with different age groups

arriving at staggered times starting at 9:00am and ending at 10:00am. Plastic eggs filled with toys and candy will be hidden throughout the park.

New Business

Recreation Revolving Fund Request- K. Troendle requested that the following expenses be approved from the Recreation Revolving Fund to pay for 2019 programs: \$184.36 for Pickleball (painter's tape, court separators, 7 net repair kits); \$403.38 for Quannippi Trail Signs (54 signs at \$7.47 each); \$150.00 to advertise the Barbershopper's Event in the 2019 Summer Guide as requested by the Barbershopper's. The requested expenses are offset with program revenue. K. Thomas made a motion to approve the request as presented, motion was seconded by R. Arsenault and passed.

Director's Report- The Commission reviewed the Director's Reports as presented:

Director's Reports February 2019

- Quannippi Trail Signs- approved and ordered
- Primex Training: Minimizing Your Liability Exposure
- NHRPA Training: Summer Camp Program Training
- Deliberative Session Meeting
- Meeting with Rec Facility Study Committee
- Meeting with Old Home Week Committee
- Recommendations to Town Administrator for Community Center Rentals
- Revs United Rec Soccer Program Survey
- Administrative Assistant training
- AFAA Recertification
- Outdoor Winter Fun Event
- 2019 Program Planning
- Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
- Filing/phone calls/email correspondence
- Press Releases
- Purchased needed supplies for Department Events
- Process Community Center Rentals

March 2019

- Quannippi Trail Signs- received
- Hiring Summer Camp employees
- Summer Brochure Logistics
- Meeting with Town Administrator: Craft Fair Agreement
- Meeting with Community Recreation Project Committee
- Meeting with Old Home Week Committee

- 2019 Program Planning: Let's Go Fishing; Adult Softball League; Tennis Camp; Archery Camp; Summer Camps; Guitar Lessons; Photography Class; Barbershopper's Event; Pick-up adult co-ed games: Volleyball, Softball, Spikeball; Pre-School Program; and more
- Ordered ADA portable toilets for Town Recreation areas
- Filing/phone calls/email correspondence
- Press Releases
- Purchased needed supplies for Department/Events
- Process Community Center Rentals
- Grounds and Maintenance and Cemetery Departments: new and ongoing projects and supervision

2019 Seasonal Programs Update- The Director presented a list of 2019 Programs that will be sponsored including: Let's Go Fishing Program, Archery Camp, Tennis Camp, 2 weeks of PR Department Summer Camp, Wicked Cool Science Camp, Summer Grilling Class, Paint Night, Beach Bonfire and Guitar singalong, Concerts at the Alton Bay Land Bandstand, Community Lawn Games Night, Adult pick-up games: Beach Volleyball/Beach Ball; Softball/Kickball/Wiffle ball; Spikeball, Exercise Classes, Line Dancing, Pickleball, Hiking Group and more.

Public Input II (limited to 5 minutes per person on any Governmental/Town Business)

There was no public input.

Adjournment

K. Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm; motion was seconded by R. Arsenault and passed. **The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 6:30pm at the Pearson Road Community Center.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Kellie Troendle, Certified Park and Recreation Professional
Parks and Recreation Director*