

**Minutes**  
**Alton Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**November 2, 2022**  
**6:00pm, Pearson Road Community Center**

Members Present: Kristin Thomas, John Markland, Ken Roberts, Megan Stanley

Board of Selectmen Representative: Not present

Public Present: Kelly Sullivan, Andrea Caruso, Christy Painchaud, Russ Wilder, Duane Hammond

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle-Parks and Recreation Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by member Ken Roberts, and the public was welcomed to the “Friends of Parks and Recreation” meeting.

***Meeting Summary***

K. Roberts gave a brief overview of the purpose of the meeting and the goal to create a sub-committee of the Parks and Recreation Commission that would help with upgrading existing park and recreation facilities, fundraising and grant writing. K. Roberts stated he will contact the Town Administrator to confirm the process of setting up a fund that donations can be placed in to that will be overseen by the Town Treasurer.

The following residents are interested in being a part of the sub-committee in some aspect: Russ Wilder; Ken Roberts; Megan Stanley; Christy Painchaud; Kelly Sullivan; Andrea Caruso; Duane Hammond and Bob Regan. There was discussion of the sub-committee being appointed by the Board of Selectmen and electing leadership positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer once the sub-committee is formed. Jill Houser was not in attendance at the meeting tonight but is interested in being involved.

The group discussed using the new Master Plan as a tool for future planning in support of recreation.

K. Sullivan suggested posting the notice of the meeting to all community Facebook pages to attract volunteers.

R. Wilder spoke as a Conservation Commission representative and noted the trail systems in Alton, and trails as a recreational resource. He suggested reaching out to the Belknap Range Hikers for volunteer support. R. Wilder spoke about the Conservation Commission sponsoring hikes as events and possible fundraisers, and about increasing the relationship between the Conservation Commission and Parks and Recreation.

A. Caruso suggested adding the link to the Master Plan document in the meeting notice to email invitees once the Master Plan is approved. A. Caruso suggested encouraging a “Giving Tuesday”- where families would give of their time for a number of hours as a family goal. Also, the group agreed that volunteer hours would be given to PMHS students who participated in the meetings and/or projects.

J. Markland recommended holding the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting first, then the sub-committee meeting so Commission members can help facilitate the sub-committee meeting if needed.

The next sub-committee meeting will be December 7, 2022 at 6:00pm at the Pearson Road Community Center.

The Friends of Parks and Recreation meeting was closed by member, Ken Roberts and the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting continued.

### ***Approval of Agenda***

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

### ***Approval of Minutes 9/14/22***

M. Stanley made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 14, 2022 as presented, motion was seconded by K. Thomas and passed.

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

There was no public input.

### ***New Business***

Winter Programs- K. Troendle reviewed the scheduled programs being offered in the winter including: Pickleball at PMHS and ACS; Light Up Night; Winter Carnival- Children's Warming Hut; Pre-School programs: Little Pesaukees and Lil Picassos; Weight Training Classes; Yoga Classes; Teen and Middle School events and after school programs; Ice Skating Party; Snow Shoe Hikes; Family Game Nights and more. At this time the coordination of bus trips (Disney on Ice; Boston Sports Teams; Holiday shows, etc.) is cost prohibitive because of ticket and transportation costs and being required to pre-buy tickets to re-sell for trips. Most trips were in the \$100+ range pp and were not affordable for most families. K. Troendle reported that the Department is partnering with local Recreation Departments and advertising their trips to Alton residents, space permitting. Also K. Troendle noted that gym space in both schools for programs like Men's Basketball, Co-Ed Adult Volleyball and Open Gym times is difficult to acquire because of the practices and games for the school sports teams. The school has offered weekly gym space for Pickleball but other facility use requests are pending until the schools can find available time slots.

Recreation Revolving Fund Request- No monies were requested at this time.

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

There was no public input.

*Adjournment*

M. Stanley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03pm; motion was seconded by K. Thomas and passed. The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2022 at 5:30pm at the Pearson Road Community Center; the Friends of Parks and Recreation sub-committee meeting will be at 6:00pm at the Pearson Road Community Center.

*Respectfully submitted,*

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

Approved 5.24.23