

CHARLOTTE RECREATION COMMISSION.

Tuesday March 10, 2019, 6pm - Charlotte Town Hall - Regular Meeting Minutes - Page One

- 1.0 Meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M. Bill Fraser-Harris, Craig Reynolds, Rich Aherns, Christy Gallese, Greg Smith and Judy Hill were in attendance. Matt Krasnow, Carrie Spear, Nicole Conley and Bud Shriner were also in attendance. A quorum was present.
- 2.0 Adjustments to Agenda - none
- 3.0 Public Comments and Communication - none
- 4.0 December minutes were approved.
- 5.0 Discussion/ Action Items
  - 5.1.1 Rec Director Update.
  - 5.1.2 **Champlain Valley School District (CVSD)** has set pricing at \$11,000 for recreation's use of school facilities that include fields, indoor adult pickleball, basketball and soccer for 20/21 starting July 1st. Historically Town Rec contributed a Town Lands Fee (\$3,000 - \$6,000) that includes mowing/ fertilization of fields and courts maintenance. The school will cover those costs moving forward. Recreation will pay port-a-potty expense for outside fields
    - District will charge an annual \$25 youth/\$35 adult facility usage fee per program with signed waiver requirement. CVSD will monitor how recreation uses facility.
    - Town and District are negotiating possible Universal Fee that would be a town budget line item that would include Recreation usage fee. Town Rec is at impasse with District.
    - Matt commented that Town is in period of flux regarding CVSD charging town for use of school and Select Board will continue to discuss with CVSD. Town is looking into changing polling location from school. Matt is optimistic that fee structure will sort itself out moving forward
    - Greg mentioned short comings of using multiple purpose room for pickleball including: court size is small due to space restraint, room is generally over heated, and a rough calculation of drop-in cost would make activity not affordable for all
  - 5.1.3 **Other items discussed included:**
    - Beach Attendant hiring is in process
    - Spring lacrosse schedule is all set
    - REI is running fishing program at Lake Iroquois
    - Carrie inquired about organized Spring town trail hikes/walks
    - Craig inquired about scholarship funds. Nicole said fund continues to grow with \$240 added from online registrations. The balance is \$5,600. It was suggested that Rec application form include an explainer of what the fund is used for.
    - Carrie mentioned possible race fee increase for Race VT events from \$1 to \$2. It was decided to leave at \$1 in an effort to encourage recreation activities.
  - 5.2.1 **Event planning.** Nicole expressed need for commission to establish event planning policy prior to upcoming season at town beach. Conversation included: Acknowledgment of extensive application form Nicole created, does commission or director want to be event planner(s), what size events should be allowed, do we want large wedding-type events or smaller events, resident only events, non-profit vs. for-profit, how many events a year, number of attendees, etc. It was noted that town beach is designated as public property and cannot be exclusive to non-residents. Recurring question: What does Commission want to do at the park/beach?
  - 5.2.2 Determined that Event Fee Schedule needs to be established, that events will be considered on a case-by-case basis, applicants will access form via website. Additional conversation included: Applicant purchases a minimum/maximum required amount of parking passes to manage event size, Commission to establish non-negotiable issues of what can/cannot occur at event (i.e: music with loudspeakers?), Commission to envision facility improvements to facilitate larger, more formal events as pathway to future, and parking study this summer will offer additional information about beach usage. Establishment of sub-committee to create Event Planning was discussed.

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- 5.2.3 Event Planning Outcome- Nicole to email commissioners draft of broad event application form. Commissioners will review form, what to include, what to delete, questions, suggestions, etc then email comments back to Nicole by March 20. Nicole will compile input and commission to discuss at next meeting.
- 5.3. **Town Beach Party** is set for July 11 (rain date July 12). Similar format as years prior with addition of Pig Roast donated by Peter Trono/Fat Cow Farm. Bill Fraser-Harris suggested event include town volunteer recognition as outreach to town committees.
- 5.4. **Music at Beach.** Mozart Festival is defunct. Bill can arrange for classical musicians to perform. Commission to petition Select Board to make Music at Beach a town event to be covered by town's liability insurance. Recreation Chair to confer with town clerk re collecting funds at event and payment to musicians.
- 5.4. **Tennis Court Repair and Cleaning.** Cleaning and repair quotes to be collected and given to Nicole. Courts are reserved mid-May to end of June for youth tennis camps. Cleaning and repair work can take place on Fridays or end of June when camps have ended.
- 5.4. **Mission Statement.** Commission was asked by Select Board to brainstorm what the commission is doing and wants to be doing in an effort to create a mission statement. A clear description of the Rec Director position was established when position changed from Coordinator to Director.
- Commission was tasked with developing a mission statement to define what a Rec commissioner does, what is the purpose of the commission, etc. Conversation included: making a change for the better, collaboration, interacting productively with Rec Director
  - Rec Director expressed frustration with Chair's opinion representing all of commissioners, lack of respect, meetings were sometimes scheduled when Director communicated she was unable attend
  - Director asked that the Chair respect her boundaries and expectations that have been made known to him (i.e no texting on weekends, unless an emergency)
  - Rec Chair offered conciliatory response with hope of moving forward

6.0 Commissioner Comments/other business - none

7.0 Next meeting Tuesday April 14 @ 6:00pm

8.0 Meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Minutes approval signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Fraser-Harris, Chairperson