

Portland Parks and Recreation Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 8, 2024

Buck-Foreman Community Center

Parks & Recreation Office

265 Main Street

Present: Commission Members: Karen Agogliati, Chair, Chris Donahue, Deb Rooth

Also: Andy Dionne, Parks and Recreation Director, Jim Tripp, Town Council Liaison

1. Call to order

Karen Agogliati called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call/Appointment of Alternates

No action.

3. Approval of Agenda

Chris Donahue made a motion to approve the Agenda for January 4, 2024 as amended and seconded by Deb Rooth. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes – Regular Mtg. December 11, 2023

Chris Donahue made a motion to approve minutes for Regular Meeting on December 11, 2023 as presented and seconded by Deb Rooth. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Appointment of Chairperson

Chris Donahue made a motion to appoint Karen Agogliati as Chairperson and seconded by Deb Rooth. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Seasonal Events

Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled on March 23, 2024 with March 24, 2024 as the raindate. Event will begin at 11:00a.m. Signs will be ordered including those that can be used repeatedly; generic wording; age groups, start/finish. Lanes will be set up east/west from the storage

building and will be marked with rope and stakes. Commission members are asked to purchase candy.

7. Park and Field Updates

The possible installation of a “Buddy Bench” at the Portland Rec. Complex was discussed.

Andy Dionne said that the new fence for the Rec. Complex will should be installed before ground freezes. Select Fence and Guardrail is secured as the vendor and selected from the state contract list.

The Middlesex Avenue concession stand will be repaired in the spring by Public Works. Irrigation is next on the list but parking lot needs to be done first.

Discussion about lighting is ongoing as there is no electrician on town staff.

There is a new port-o-potty vendor – United Site Services. They will be at the Rec Complex and at Rose Hill.

8. Parks and Recreation Programs

Recreational Cheerleading has begun and is held at Brownstone Intermediate School on Tuesdays through March 5, 2024 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Program is instructed by Clara Kopacz for Grades K - 6. Tee shirts and bows are ordered by Parks and Rec and will be distributed to participants.

Skyhawks (Youth) Basketball for Kindergarten through Grade 2 has begun and is held on Saturdays at Gildersleeve School through February 10, 2024. There are 4 programs age groups.

Knights of Columbus will hold a free throw contest on January 19th or the 26th. Date to be confirmed.

Kids Blast Program is for Grades K-6 Monday – Friday at Brownstone Intermediate School. 39 families have registered for the P.M. program with the highest daily enrollment of 20 children. P.M. program takes place from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. The A.M. program is being brought back and will be held from 7:00 – 8:00a.m.

Adult Tai Chi registration is open for the remainder of 2023. Program is scheduled on Saturdays at the Buck-Foreman Community Center. Registration for 2024 began on 2/7/2024 and through 4/3/2024.

Adult Drop-in Volleyball is scheduled on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Gildersleeve School. Program is free to Portland residents and \$20.00 for non-residents. Floor is repaired at Gildersleeve.

Cara Brennan is organizing field trips as part of the Teen Camp Program.

9. Budget and Capital Needs

Budget is due in mid-January. Public hearings for budget will take place in mid-March.

10. BOS Liaison Discussion

Jim Tripp said that he will convey highlights of PRC meetings at Board of Selectmen meetings.

11. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

12. Other

There was a suggestion to have a tri-fold brochure designed and distributed during school orientation; Mom's Club, and Kids Hikes led by Cara.

13. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Chris Donahue and seconded by Deb Rooth. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Guite

Recording Secretary