

Meeting Minutes for New Ipswich Parks and Rec

September 28, 2016 7pm

In attendance- Mindy Buxton, Nichole Talbot, Shawn Talbot, Kelly Vallencourt, Shawna Kutyla, Tina McCabe

- Mindy has been keeping the town website up to date with events and forms. www.townofnewipswich.org
- Nichole updated us with Autumn Festival information. Tickets this year are \$.50 each. We will have a Recreations table with information on upcoming events, flyers, info on fundraisers as well as ticket sales for games and rides. We will have a bounce obstacle course this year. \$2.00 each time through or a bracelet for \$5.00 will be unlimited for the day. Tina will check in to see about getting a regular bounce house for free from their unit. We will have a football throw game, Photo booth game (the High School art teacher is making some great stands for us to use) \$5.00 each photo, the pie throwing contest will be back as well. We will also be hosting scarecrow making with a possibility of a contest. We need at least 20 volunteers for the day!

Shawn and Nichole wanted to update the signs that we place on route 124 but for this year since we are doing things differently Mindy would like to hold off on anymore large purchases until we see what our accounts look like after the festival. Just use what we have for now.

Food will stay similar to soccer menu with some added things like stew or chili.

-The café is running smooth. We had issues with using the new fryer due to it being commercial grade, but after speaking with Fire Chief Meredith Lund we are using it outside until the upgrades in the café are ready to be done. If we earn enough money on the café this season we are hoping to get new counters and storage as well as a updated refrigerator.

- Shawna is confident that soccer is running smoothly. She is compiling a list of equipment needed for next season as she goes along and will turn that in after the season is over. Shawn Talbot will turn in the ref schedule ASAP so Mindy can keep track of pay for each referee, and know what to anticipate for the season's financial records.

- Kelly came in and discussed our upcoming basketball season. Signups begin October 27 6-8 at Boynton Café and will continue through November. We will keep signups open until after Boynton does their team cuts but the cut off will be after that and we will not be able to accept anymore 5-8 sign ups due to team formation and evaluations. Kelly did such a great job organizing evaluations last year we hope it will go so smoothly this year as well. If we have multiple teams at the 5-8 grade level they will be divided evenly and WILL NOT be divided based on the student's grade. Flyers will go out to the schools in a few weeks.

- The winter cheer program has been accepted by our BOS and will start running this year. Kristen Stauffeneker will be our coordinator and has been approved for a \$750.00 stipend per season. The money will come from the program itself and not our budget set by the town as with every program. The cost for this is looking about \$75.00 per child for grades 1-4. We will work with HHES and basketball to make sure we have time in HHES gymnasium for practices. The girls will also be cheering at some Saturday 5-8 Rec basketball games. We are also hoping to get into a Fun Comp. as well this season. The girls will be getting uniforms and bows. Signups will be help alongside basketball starting October 27th.

- The Rec Department started a new background check system last year. We've had some bumps but we are starting to figure out an efficient system. Mindy will be putting detailed rules together with the help of The Chief of Police, Administrator and Becky Doyle (selectman liaison). These will be handed out to all coordinators as well as posted on the town website once completed.

-Repairs have been slow moving but Mindy has a list going and with help from volunteers and the Highway Department they are slowly getting done.

-Group outing idea- Newport Mansion Tour. Possibly another option was discussed maybe a trip to Foxwoods. Still need ideas!

-Budget planning has started so ideas are welcome. This is for the town budget. We are looking into a different potty company due to lots of issues this year with this company. Also looking at a family or handicap bathroom for families with small children. Some electrical work has been discussed and Mindy is collecting quotes. Mindy would like to see a raise for her General Coordinator Nichole Talbot due to the large changes in the department.

- Tina McCabe has stepped up and will be heading our toy drive program. We will be reaching out to community members to find families or children to sponsor this Christmas. We will have a information at the Rec table at the Autumn festival and will have information added to the basketball signups as well as info at the sign ups. We will be reaching out to businesses to ask to set up drop boxes for people wishing to donate a gift. And we will be setting up a donation station at basketball games in December to get the word out. Anyone interested in volunteering or donating please contact the rec dept.

- As always sign up forms for upcoming programs can be found on the town website.

www.townofnewipswich.org

As of now the areas we are looking for volunteers are:

- Easter event
- Autumn Fest
- Movie Night (new)
- Adult programs (new need ideas and coordinators)
- Youth Soccer Program

Next Rec Meeting:
October 26, 2016 7pm at the Town Office