

**Walpole Recreation Committee Meeting**  
**July 15, 2024**

**Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.**

**Members present: Scott, Mike, Marilyn, Diane, Marilou, Annie.**

**Selectboard members : Steve D'Alessio, Carolyn Vose.**

**Kraig Harlow, Recreation manager.**

**Members of the public: Sue Kibbe, Stephanie Green, pool manager.**

**This meeting is being recorded for accuracy of minutes.**

**June meeting minutes reviewed. Carolyn requested two sentences be omitted, and showed Mike the ones she wants omitted. He will correct and send corrected copy to Sarah Downing.**

Scott informed the committee of the resignation of Katie Beam.

Scott apologized for not having printed copies of the agenda, as he had just emailed the new agenda to the members an hour and a half before the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Sand box:** Marilou will provide a list of those interested in having a sandbox for children at the pool.

**Drewsville Common:** The Drewsville Store has new owners. Scott will reach out to them.

**Walpole Common:** Discussion about closing off the area around the common for skateboarders, roller blades, etc. Possibility of using Drewsville Common or an area in North Walpole for this was also discussed.

Will need approval of Selectboard. Scott will ask to be on the Selectboard Meeting Agenda at some point in the future.

**Pool Shading:** Long discussion. For the short term, umbrellas are available for use. Still in search for long term solution. Diane moved to have staff at pool keep track of pool usage. Mike seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Soccer Planning:** Long discussion. With Kraig leaving before the soccer season starts, there is much to be done.

Mike asked Scott to clarify the topic of **Action Items**, which was on the original agenda. Steve clarified.

**Movie Nights:** Scott is looking into sandwich boards for advertising movie nights.

**Budget for Recreation Department:** Stephanie has several items to add for next year's budget: Fee to state for registering the pool as a public bathing facility(\$250.00); Swimsuits for the lifeguards; lifeguard salaries. Steve discussed with the committee how the budget process works. The new Recreation Department manager will be involved his preparing next year's budget. Steve suggested the September Recreation Committee meeting include budget on the agenda.

**Recreation Committee Mission Statement:** Mike handed out copies of his proposed mission statement. Kraig emailed his mission statement to the current members. The members will review and maybe come up with ideas, to be discussed at next month's meeting.

**Estimates for refurbishing tennis and pickle ball courts:** Discussion as to the number of estimates needed. Kraig has 3.

**Porta Potty was not on the agenda, but it is old business that has been resolved. There is now a porta potty down by the tennis/pickle ball courts. Much thanks to Kraig for making this happen.**

**Revolving Fund:** Steve explained how it works. Mike made a motion to take \$10,000.00 from the revolving fund to be used for new pickle ball court at the North Walpole park. Marilou seconded. More discussion. Mike withdrew his motion .

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Marilou would like pool hours and information to be in the Clarion. Stephanie explained how the pool hours have been erratic due to staffing of the lifeguards. She said she would not want the information in Clarion to be incorrect, due to changes in staffing situation. Current information is available on whiteboard outside of pool entrance, and on Walpole Recreation Department's Facebook page.

Stephanie will look into the possibility of opening pool a few weeks early next year.

**Water and other ideas at the pool:** Annie had several questions/concerns about drinking water at the pool. The water fountain next to basketball court is out of order. Annie was also concerned about selling bottled water in plastic bottles. It is unclear if the water at the pool is potable. Stephanie will check with Mark Houghton. Mike moved to repair or replace the broken water fountain, and put in a water fountain with a water bottle filler. Estimated cost: \$3500.00-\$5500.00. This will have to come out of the revolving fund. Diane seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Annie's friend Hank offered to repair the mini-library. Scott moved to allow Hank to repair the mini-library. Marilou seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Soccer balls:** Kraig said soccer league is in need of 60 new balls, at the cost of \$850.00-\$1100.00. Asking for approval to spend the amount needed to purchase 60 new balls. Scott moved, Diane seconded. All in favor, motion passed. Any money used from revolving fund must be approved by the select board.

Diane asking the status of hiring new Recreation Director. Steve said there have been three applicants.

Discussion as to next meeting, and whether the meetings need to stay on Mondays, and the time the meeting should start, and the length of the meetings. Steve suggested getting the agenda out early, so the members have time to review items before the meeting.

## **Next meeting August 19th @ 6:00 pm.**

Scott moved to adjourn the meeting. Marilou seconded. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

These minutes are unapproved but will be reviewed at the August meeting for corrections.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Hayes  
Secretary