

Town of Harpswell
Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2019, 7:00pm

Committee Members in Attendance: David Brooks, Tom Carr, Gail Federico, Susan Rich, Rick Rumba

Also in Attendance: Gina Perow, Recreation Director

A quorum of Committee Members was present when the meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Meeting Minutes: The DRAFT minutes for the November 5, 2018 Committee meeting were approved as written [5-0-0]. The DRAFT minutes for the April 1, 2019 Committee meeting were approved with one correction (date of the American Lung Association Trek Across Maine was incorrect. The correct date is Friday June 14 rather than June 13) [4-0-1]. The FINAL April 1, 2019 Committee meeting minutes will reflect this change.

Old Business:

- **Youth Program Updates:**
 - Youth Baseball and T-ball have gotten off to a slow start this year due to the rainy weather and wet field conditions.
 - The cut-off date for this summer's Camp Harpswell is June 6. So far 10 campers are registered.
- **Recreation Committee Action Items List:** Gina has been investigating options for keeping track of trail work action items. She reported that it appears it would be difficult to find a way to post the list and for members to post updates using the MyRec on-line software that would be available only to Rec Committee members. However, she is still looking at which options might work.
- **Recreation Awards:** Gina reported that she plans to ask that year's Recreation Award designees be recognized at the June 6, 2019 Selectman's meeting.

New Business:

- **New Program Assistant:** Kayla Matthews has been hired as the new, part-time Recreation Program Assistant. Kayla has been a Harpswell resident for about 3 years, and she has 3 children in the school district who are involved in the Recreation Department's Youth Program activities. Her official start date is May 14, 2019.
- **Cedar Beach Monitors:** Monitoring at Cedar Beach kicks off on Memorial Day weekend. Gina is looking to hire 3 monitors this year. So far, about 5 individuals have applied. Gina is interviewing applicants for the positions today and tomorrow (May 13 and 14, 2019).
- **Trails Day:** Trails Day will be held this year on June 1 & 2. Gina is working on finalizing event sponsors and is organizing volunteers to cover the check-in table at the Town Office parking lot, as well as volunteers to place the sticker boxes on each of the designated trails.

- **Trail Work:** There was some discussion of the trail work that needs to be completed on both Devils Back Trails as well as the Cliff Trail. Devils Back East requires some minor trenching to drain some wet areas on the trail near the parking lot. In addition, it was suggested that the bootleg short-cut trail on the north end of the parking lot needs to be blocked with brush to discourage its use. Tom reported that the Cliff trail still has some very muddy and wet areas at the beginning of the trail near the Town Office parking lot. He suggested that volunteers try to spread wood chips on these areas prior to Trails Day as a short-term fix. Also, the footprints marking the trail across the Transfer Station road need to be re-painted. In addition, Don mentioned to Gina that parts of Devils Back East and the Cliff Trail cut-off trail need re-blazing. Finally, Tom reported that there is still a problem with “fairy house” construction along parts of the Cliff Trail. Many very large fairy houses are still being built outside of the designated areas and using large amounts unauthorized and living materials. This situation is not only creating a nuisance, but in some cases it is also causing damage to vegetation as well as trail safety issues. Gina mentioned that she will soon be meeting with a reporter from the Harpswell Anchor, and she suggested that perhaps an article can published in an upcoming issue describing the problem, its implications and request that the public follow the rules.
- **Other:**
 - Orrs Island Library: Sue mentioned that the Orrs Island Library is in the process of reorganizing some of its rooms, and that the fireplace room will soon be available for meetings, lectures, etc.; and that this might be an opportunity for the Recreation Department’s summer family movie nights or other programs.
 - American Lung Association Trek Across Maine: Tony Barrett was unable to attend tonight’s re-scheduled Recreation Committee meeting, but he contacted Rick Rumba and Gina regarding the upcoming Maine Chapter of the American Lung Association (ALA) Trek Across Maine bicycle event. It is a 3-day bicycle event that begins on Friday June 14 and will be traveling through Harpswell on Friday morning June 14 (Rt 24 - Mountain Rd - Rt 123). He mentioned that ALA is still interested in any Harpswell residents that may be interested in helping as volunteers that morning. Specifically they are looking for “route monitors” at several locations along the route in Harpswell, as well as assistance at the event kickoff at Brunswick Landing and at the first rest stop on Pennellville Road in Brunswick. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact the event coordinator, Erica Fredrick-Rock, at (207)-624-0310 or Erica.Fredrick-Rock@lung.org.

Next Meeting: September 9, 2019 @ 7:00pm at the Town Office

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Rumba, Secretary