

**TOWN OF BRATTLEBORO
RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
BOARD MEETING
January 9, 2017**

The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks Board met on Monday, January 9, 2017 at the Gibson Aiken Center in the Large Conference Room.

Attending Board Members: Jess Gould, Renee Woliver, Ben Underhill, Ricky Davidson, Bethany Ranquest, Todd Fontaine and Bill Willson.

Attending Staff members: Director, Carol Lolatte and Administrative Assistant Kim Isaacsen.

Agenda Adjustment: Add 2 items under new business item e. Play, Inc item f. Youth Lacrosse.

Public Participation: None

Minutes: Motion to approve the November 14, 2016 minutes was made by Ben Underhill and seconded by Bill Willson by a vote of 5-0 the November minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

DOG PARK/SKATEPARK PROPOSAL UPDATE: All of the necessary permits have been received, both groups may now work independently on the projects. The BASIC Committee has launched a fundraising campaign that includes a You Caring Page, in addition to hosting a local event at Elliot St. Fish and Chips. All of the fundraising efforts are beginning to generate funds. The Dog Park will be putting an RFP for fencing in March, the estimated cost for the fencing is \$20,000.00.

WEST RIVER PARK UPDATE: All project at the park have been completed.

NEW BUSINESS

PROGRAM REPORT: (New Report Dec 12 – Jan 7)

- Open Gym and Game Room are being well attended.
- Parent/Tot Open Gym has 10-20 participants attending.
- The new session of youth sewing started on Jan. 6th with 3 participants
- New sessions of Chess, Yoga & Pilates and Tai Chi are beginning.
- Youth Basketball:
 - Kindergarten Basketball begins on Jan 9th.
 - Co-ed Basketball started games on Jan 6th.
 - Girls Basketball has their first games on Jan 7th.
 - Boys Jr/Sr pro is about halfway through their season.

- Adult Programs:
 - Zumba has had 10 participants and 1 punch pass has been sold.
 - Badminton has had 7 participants and 1 punch pass has been sold.
 - Volleyball has had 14 participants.
 - Table Tennis has had 13 participants and 4 punch passes have been sold.
- Nelson Withington Skating Facility attendance:
 - 96 Dollar day attendees.
 - 392 Resident student visits.
 - 207 Resident adult visits.
 - 99 Non-resident student visits.
 - 71 Non-resident adult visits.
 - 54 senior visits.
 - 25 Stick Time visits.
 - 579 Skate Rentals.
- The Last Night activities included:
 - A Pot Luck Luncheon at noon in the senior center, was attended by 35 seniors.
 - Sandglass Theater performance at the Brattleboro Retreat played to a full house of 90 young fans.
 - Free Ice Skating at the Nelson Withington Skating Facility was enjoyed by several hundred participants, who received door prizes and hot chocolate.
 - Several hundred people ended the night with a Fabulous Fireworks display by Northstar Fireworks over the Retreat Meadows.
- Other activities that took place over the holiday break included, Bowling, Mini Winter Camp, Movie Matinee and a Basketball clinic offered by Paul Freed and the Varsity Girls Basketball Team.
- The Senior Meals Program had the Annual Holiday Dinner on December 15th, hosted and sponsored by Senator Bernie Sanders.
- Other Senior Center activities included, Vermont Legal Aid Program and the Annual Cookie Swap.
- The Winter Carnival schedule was distributed to the Board.

CAPTIAL IMPROVMENTS:

- The pool project will be completed in the spring, GS Bolton will return to complete the concrete work and painting as scheduled before the pool opens in June.

2017/18 BUDGET UPDATE: The Selectboard has asked Carol to provide an analysis of the cost of keeping the swimming pool open an additional week in August, there is some concern that staffing may be in issue. Members of the Selectboard also requested Carol review the costs involved for making the Creamery Bridge a rentable venue for

review during the budget process. Other items currently included in the budget are phase 3 of the window project at the Gibson Aiken Center and repairs to the Gibson Aiken Center parking lot.

FYI UPDATE:

- Tree work at the Common should be started in the next few weeks, this work will include removal of 4 trees and removing dead limbs from several others.
- Tree work at Plaza Park will be completed on January 19th & 20th, this work will include removal of dead limbs. A permit to close a portion of road was required before the work could be completed.
- A large water leak underground was been identified at Living Memorial Park, Carol is working with water department to resolve the problem.
- Carol will be away at a conference from January 10th – 12th.
- Living Memorial Park Snow Sports has had a shortage of water from the pond to make snow due to the lack of rain during the spring, summer and fall.
- Men's League Basketball has been having some problems with Technical fouls being issues, Carol is working with the Board to help assist with a resolution.
- Girls 5/6 Basketball was reduced from three teams to two teams of 13 girls because one of the coaches made the decision not to continue coaching. The program coordinator and Carol have been looking into a few solutions to get the players more playing time during the season.
- Carol has been working with her son R.J. on the creation of a new app for the Recreation and Parks, this app would be helpful to facility users and participant on getting information about programs and facilities quickly.

PLAY INC: The Play Inc. Board meeting will be scheduled in February.

YOUTH LACROSSE: Carol and Sarah are still working with the Athletic director from BUHS and BAMS on the possibility of moving our middle school players into a program at the middle school during the spring.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 13th at 6:15p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Bethany Ranquest, 2nded by Jessica Gould at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Isaacsen

Kimberly Isaacsen, Administrative Assistant