

## ***Franklin Recreation Meeting May 15, 2017***

**Participants:** Bridgette Favreau, Bridget Thompson, Stephanie Ho, Brady Giroux, Nicole Tatro, Brooks Sturtevant, David Bennion, Paula Tremblay

Bridget Thompson called meeting to order at 7:10.

Bridgette motioned to approve the meeting minutes from April 17. Brady seconded. The motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Bridgette. The following expenses have been accrued recently:

- Kevin Smith's: \$833 for Little League equipment
- Por-o-let: \$90/month through October.
- Uniforms: \$1496.50 to Grizzly Graphix
- Annie: \$196.18 for first aid kits
- Swanton Rec: \$796 for Little League charter
- Town for sand: cost TBA for Tball field updates
- McCuins: cost TBA for lime to line fields

The total amount of money spent on Little League this year has exceeded the registration fees. Bridget motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report. Nicole seconded. The motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

David talked about the Reader's Digest Nicest Place in America contest. The deadline is May 31, but the application doesn't seem difficult. Franklin Recreation will enter Franklin in the Contest.

The Messenger would like to do a follow up story on the Recreation Department. Ruthie Laroche is the contact person. Perhaps this would be a good way to introduce the community calendar.

The Girl Scout's Franklin's Got Talent talent show was a big hit. Perhaps the Recreation Department could continue this tradition.

Discussion about a Franklin Recreation Float in the Memorial Day Parade and about offering to help with the Parade organization in the future.

## **Recreation Director Job Position**

The Recreation Director Job description was reviewed with the Franklin Selectboard representative, Brooks. The description will be forwarded to the entire Franklin Selectboard and discussed at their meeting on Wednesday, May 17. A Recreation Director could begin working on July 1. The job posting can be advertised around town, sent out in a town email, posted on Facebook and placed in the Messenger with a potential due date of June 15.

## **RiseVT Mini Grant Ideas and Application**

Grant was due in May. This will be added to a list of Grants to be explored in 2018.

## **Summer Programming**

Securing liability insurance to host summer camps continues to be difficult. Bridget is working to set up a meeting with the Town's insurance representative. Details about CampDiscover and the possible Farm to School Cooking Camp and how Franklin Recreation can help will be discussed after meeting with the insurance representative.

Franklin Recreation would like to host some bus trips during the summer. Ideas include Granby Zoo, a Concert at Snow Farm Vineyard, and the Alburg Dunes State Park. Bridget will coordinate with Collette to find dates.

Franklin Recreation has been asked to plan an activity for the Summer Community Pizza Dinner in August. Discussion about ideas, maybe an inflatable obstacle course.

## **Sponsorship**

Franklin Recreation has received \$2350 in sponsors. There may still be more. Banners have been ordered from JC Image, but are taking longer than anticipated. CCR hasn't provided logo for their banner.

Discussion about fundraising by selling tickets to a Vt Lake Monsters Game and selling a small selection of snacks at the ball fields on May 27.

## **Little League**

The Tball field was updated to accommodate the 50 ft base paths required by Little League. The Town gave a good deal on gravel/sand. The field will still accommodate larger base paths so older teams can play on the Tball field if needed.

Discussion about making the other fields all dirt infields. Softball fields are supposed to be all dirt.

The field lining machine is in bad shape, discussion about purchasing a new one. Bases for the Tball field are on order. Two safety bases have also been ordered.

A garbage can is needed at the Tball field. Discussion about who empties garbage; Bridgette will ask Curtis.

Discussion about the softball field dugouts. They are in need of updates, and should probably be updated this summer. The baseball field dugouts need to be painted. The benches at the Tball field need to be replaced.

Lining the fields for games has been a time consuming job. Discussion about asking parents to volunteer to line the fields next year. Who lines the fields during Women's softball games in the summer?

Scoreboard would be nice at the fields, this would require electricity.

An End of Season Event will be planned for Sunday, June 11. This will include a BBQ, either a Hit-a-thon or Pitch-Hit-Run type event for the kids and an Adult Home Run Derby . Parents will be asked to help with this event.

Paula shared her concerns about the Girls Majors schedule this week. They are overwhelmed with 4-6 games/week and no time to practice between games which would allow the team an opportunity to work on areas that need improvement. The team is not well matched when playing with teams from larger communities and the girls are getting frustrated. Games versus smaller communities have been a much better experience. The strike zone from player to player has not been consistent. She plans to attend the next NWLL meeting to share her concerns.

Discussion about other towns within NWLL and how the teams are structured. In Franklin, Farm League consists of first and second graders, Minor League has third and fourth graders, and Major League has fifth and sixth graders. In other towns, fourth graders are playing on the Majors teams, and second graders are playing on the Minors teams, therefore, our teams are not well matched.

Discussion about double rostering players and if it's allowed by Little League. The rules are hard to understand. Is it allowable to pull kids up for specific games? Discussion about alternate ways to structure teams in future seasons.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44.