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**TOWN OF NORTH READING**  
*Massachusetts*

**Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes of  
Monday, October 21, 2019  
Town Hall, Room 5 at 7pm**

**Attendance:**

**Committee Members:** Ron Kern (RK), Rita Mullin (RM), Sergio Coviello (SC), Sheila Sturdevant (SS)  
**Staff:** Maureen Stevens (MS), Marty Tilton (MT), Lynne Clemens (LC), Maria Brown (MB)  
**Tardy:**  
**Absent:** Pat Filmore (PF), Billie Luker (BL)  
**Call to order:** 7:04pm; Quorum, called by RK  
**Audience of Citizens:** Karen Moberg

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

(SS) made a motion to accept Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2019.

(SC) Second the Motion

Approved: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Motion: PASSED

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mike Fitzpatrick has joined the Recreation Committee. He is readjusting his work hours so that he can attend going forward.

Rick Arington has resigned from the Recreation Committee. Work has taken over a lot of his time, and unfortunately he could not commit.

Karen Moberg wishes to join the Recreation Committee as an Associate Member, but due to state law we are not allowed to have Associate Members. RM asked if she could see how this law is written.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Parks Director:** Update

MT

MT was approached by North Reading Youth Soccer to partner with Astec Soccer. They are looking to turf Maguire field. MT passed around a PowerPoint. MS/MT notified the TA and Town Counsel to see if this was feasible and what our options would be if we entering into a leasing agreement or licensing agreement. Would it be an "at will" agreement, can either party rescind? All these questions need answering. MT/MS to sit down with Astec, North Reading Youth Soccer, TA and Town Counsel to get a clearer understanding of what they are offering.

RM concerned with the traffic and parking on Chestnut. It's busy now, not a lot of parking.

RK suggested a subcommittee.

SC made a motion to table the discussion until we have further information.

MS second the Motion,

Motion PASSED.

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### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **MT/Parks Cont'd:**

- MT has been in touch with Giantassio regarding the Security Camera's.
- Vardaro was asked to go to AJ Kenney turf field to look at adding heaters in the restrooms and utility room. They were asked for a price for the work. MT concerned price may be high.
- We are having pump issues at IRP that feed into the irrigation and restrooms. We are repairing it now. Will need to update eventually, but will be pricey. SC asked what the issue was. MT explained that the RPM was wrong and the system was outdated. It was also sized incorrectly.
- Parks crew in the middle of fall clean up and repairs. We are looking at all playground equipment and making repairs and replacing where needed. We've worked on backfill at walkways.

#### **LC/Recreation: Update**

**LC**

- Fall sessions are underway. Classes are slow to fill. We have low registration in quite a few. I believe it may be because the Fall Brochure was out late, past instructor left bad representation of Recreation. Sent out a survey and received lots of feedback that past instructor was late, didn't follow outline, etc. We are having two FREE Program Sampler on Wednesday. Registrants will meet all new instructors and sample all toddler classes. I am hoping to pick up more registrations.
- Looking to possibly give out a coupon after this Free Program Sampler.
- I've made a master program book for all instructors. This will help when one instructor is out others can fill in.
- Pumpkin Festival – this had to be brought into the Town Hall Gym because of weather. We had to put a max of 75 on the registration. Sold other pumpkins the next week.
- Bob Ramsdell wrote a Letter to the Editor about a Pickleball program. Bob went to the TA to discuss the use of Town Hall Gym. TA discussed with LC. LC explained it's a Recreational program and should go through her. LC asked for a meeting with RM and TA. LC will discuss having P&R office be in charge of gym use/scheduling.

#### **MS/Operations Director Update:**

**MS**

MS discussed Final Budget numbers – surplus of 481,614.92 remaining in Retained Earnings. Balance sheet was passed out and discussed.

- League numbers down
- MS – Summer financial numbers not final yet.
- Capital Budget – 2021, no big Capital projects, may have smaller ones, under \$25,000.
- Working with GIS for memorials/trees to try to be more efficient. Possibly even marking irrigation.

RM asked if we wanted cameras at any other park. MT – Benevento has cameras. If price is over \$25,000 would have to put in as large Capital. CIT can no longer purchase cameras.

MS – open Space plan. MT & MS are on the Committee to update the Open Space Plan. Went on a tour with Danielle McKnight, Metro Planning Counsel. They asked if anyone from the Recreation Committee wanted to be on the Open Space Committee. RM would like to be on the Committee. They asked if anyone from Martins Pond would like to be on it. RM will talk to Janet Nicosia.

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**LUC (RM):** RM thanked everyone for their work on Golf Tournament. Raised over \$10,600. RM explained that Thomson would like to purchase a bench, but wanted three together. RM will explain that we plan on spreading them out. RM asked LC to see if she thinks people going to Pee Wee Soccer would use benches when watching.

**CIT (RM):** No update, they've cancelled meetings. RM to discuss signs with Police Chief and Amy Luckiewicz.

**FONRPRC:**

Character Breakfast is scheduled for January 26, 2020. Registration is open to the public. BBQ – for 2020 we plan on having a six week BBQ Series from June 24<sup>th</sup> through July 29<sup>th</sup>. If we have to cancel one week, we'll look at August 7<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

RK ask if **Karen Moberg** would introduce herself.

- Coach of Field Hockey
- Parent
- Background in Event Planning
- Exploring what to do to get involved.

Discussion was had about Rita Mullin Field, dog waste, price of leveling off different areas. MT - over \$29,000, would need to go to bid. It's a passive field, not irrigated.

**Next Recreation Committee Meeting:** Monday, November 4, 2019.

• **Adjournment:**

**(SC) made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:30pm.**

**(SS) seconds the motion.**

**Approved: 4 Opposed: 0**

**Abstained: 0**

**Motion: PASSED**