

Recreation Committee
November 24, 2020
4:00PM, Virtual Meeting

Members in attendance: MaryLou Volpe (MV), Erin Carson (EC), Cindy Forgit (CF), Annie Roscioli (AR)
Kadion Phillips (KP)

Members Absent: Jeff Shapiro (JS)

Others in Attendance: Jeff Bridges Town Administrator

OPENING OF MEETING: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting law, G.L. c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Sturbridge Recreation Committee will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation can be found on the Town's website at <https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtual-meeting>. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen and or watch the meeting either online via the Town's on demand video broadcast, on cable television on channel 191, or dial into the meeting at 774-304-1455, enter 1428# for the meeting number and 12345 for the access code. (This phone number is only active for the public during public meetings). No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post of the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

MV called the meeting to open at 4:02 PM.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

9-16-20, 10-21-20. MV made a motion to approve the September 16th and October 21st meeting minutes as written, seconded by CF. Vote 3-0, EC abstained.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Vote on 2020 Coloring Contest Submissions.** The Recreation Committee casted individual votes on the submissions which was then reviewed in order. The Committee reviewed majority votes for all nine grades of submissions (pre-k through 7th). AR shared that participation was exceptionally great this year given the information was only available virtually this year. In addition to the coloring contest, AR has also received 13 Letters to Santa at this time. Santa will be reading these letters out loud at the Virtual Tree Lighting.
2. **Update on Virtual Tree Lighting 11/27/20.** AR reviewed the agenda for the upcoming Tree Lighting. The Assistant Town Clerk Sheila has volunteered to emcee and assist for the evening. AR will be running the Facebook live with her phone on the tripod, Santa will light the tree, Coloring Contest winners will be announced, Holly the Elf with a Holiday Magic Show, Jenee Lacy with Christmas Carols, and Santa will end the evening by reading Twas the Night Before Christmas.
3. **Update on Light Up Sturbridge.** As of this meeting date we have 28 registrations, with still a week of registration available. AR shared that the Town Planner Jean B. has connected her with the Town's GIS website and we are working to create an online, interactive map for the event. AR is currently waiting for a quote on the three trophies for each of the first place winners. AR stated it's been great to see the community interest and the event has been well received.
4. **Review Betterment and Capital Project Requests.** AR briefly reviewed Recreation's typical annual requests and expected new requests for FY22. Expected new requests consist of new Arts and Crafts shed, playground flooring update, fencing update, infield updates at Turners field, kayak rentals. These requests will be reviewed at the December meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Update on current projects**
 - a. **Little League Lighting Project.** AR shared that the contractor expects to break ground mid December pending the release of their building permit. No additional updates at this time.
 - b. **60 Cedar Street.** AR shared no major updates at this time. We are approx. \$17,000 short from completing a full master site plan for this location. Our facilities coordinator is exploring an ADA funding route for this work. These funds may need to be requested at the spring 2021 town meeting. AR stated the Recreation Committee will need to discuss these plans in detail at our January meeting, as pandemic impacts may hold the Committee back from presenting this project at the new town meeting.

PROPERTY USAGE REQUESTS.

Property Usage Reservations remain closed at this time to all external organizations.

ADJOURNMENT: MV made motion to adjourn meeting at 4:48 PM. Seconded by KP. Vote 4-0.

Tentative Next Meeting: Tuesday December 15 at 4:00 PM

**Respectfully submitted,
Annie Roscioli
Recreation Director**