

**Recreation Committee**  
**September 27, 2021**  
**4:00PM, Town Hall**

**Members in Attendance:** MaryLou Volpe (MV), Juliana Kuszewski (JK), Jeff Shapiro (JS), Kadion Phillips (KP), Annie Roscioli (AR)

**Members Absent:** Cindy Forgit (CF)

**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 on the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

The meeting was opened at 4:00 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**8-11-2, 8-18-21. MV made a motion to table, seconded by KP. Vote 4-0.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Public Information Night Discussions, 60 Cedar St Project.** AR reviewed the schedule for this evening's public information night in regards to the presentation with the project engineers. AR shared that the week prior she met with two neighborhood residents who have expressed concern in the project and wanted to learn more. One of these concerns was the request for additional lifeguards on the weekends during the summer. Additional concerns such as waiting for the bus stop, and coaches/parents arriving early for games were addressed. AR shared they reviewed traffic studies will be conducted and the permitting process will be extensive. MV agreed it is a good idea.  
MV requested additional information on requesting an assistant in the Recreation Department.  
The Committee reviewed expected funding sources for the project including CPC and ADA Grant. The ADA Grant will provide notice by mid December, and the CPC meeting is this upcoming Thursday. That meeting will provide impact on taxpayers. MV reviewed additional needs for Burgess pick up and the Trails Connection from Burgess to Cedar Rec Area and this may alleviate a stressor for the school. AR shared that currently our Girl Scout Groups do that with their Group leaders. AR reviewed the need for the Committee to promote and advocate for the project at local sports games.
- 2. Town Bonfire Updates.** AR shared that the Town Bonfire will be Saturday October 23 2021 from 5:00-9:00 PM. There were very limited dates available with the HS Sports Schedule and the Committees intent to host on a weekend. Unfortunately the Host Hotel was not available to host any dates this fall, and AR is looking to potentially host the Spring Bonfire at Hyland Orchard.  
This years Bonfire will be on the Town Common, detail requests have been submitted to both PD and FP. Featuring Sunshine and Blue Skies Band, Greater Good Brewing, and AR is working to coordinate food vendors, local businesses are given first priority. AR requested that the Committee attends the event to run the Stur Rec booth.
- 3. Town Program Updates.** AR shared that the Fall Fun Series has been quite popular with several more weeks left in the series. AR reviewed the annual Tree Lighting, expected to be in person for 2021 featuring Santa and Holly the Elf. AR shared that the event will be professionally emceed this year. The

Tree Lighting will be 11/26/21 and we are looking for craft vendors at this time. Upcoming CPR Class on 11/6/21, several seats still available. The Committee reviewed No NYC Holiday Trip 2021. Saturday January 29<sup>th</sup> is expected to be the next Skate Night with the Sturbridge Fire Department. AR shared that registration is now open for Light Up Sturbridge, a community decorating contest. Register by 11/29/21, view the Town Website or Facebook for full details! Lastly the Town Wide Yard Sale was great success with 65 participants, and the Fall Concert on the Common is 10/10/21.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## **PROPERTY USAGE REQUESTS**

1. Town Common, Horribles Parade. October 31, 2021. Sturbridge Fire Department (SAFE Division)
2. Town Common, Community Policing Event. October 9, 2021. Sturbridge Police Department
3. Town Common, HOTB 5K. November 13, 2021. Sturbridge Special Events Committee

**MV made a motion to accept the Property Usage Requests, seconded by JK. Vote 4-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT: KP made motion to adjourn meeting at 4:59 PM. Seconded by JK. Vote 4-0.**

**Tentative Next Meeting:** October 20, 2021 at 4:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Annie Roscioli  
Recreation Director