

Meeting Minutes

Bethel Recreation Committee

Monday, March 12, 2012

A) Call to order 4:40 PM

The group called the meeting to order at 4:40 PM, Monday, March 12, 2012 in the Whitcomb High School P.E. conference room in Bethel, VT

B) Roll call

In attendance: Felicia Dieffenbach; Eleanor Griffin; Dulce Ricciardelli-O'Hare; Dana Anderson; Abbie Sherman; Bill Hall, and Frances Staples.

C) Approval of minutes from last two meetings

The committee moved and approved the minutes of Sunday, January 8, 2012 and made one revision to the Monday, February 2, 2012 minutes [Excel Camp will attend the Recreation Center on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays this year] and then approved those minutes.

D) Open issues

1. Personnel recruitment: Last year's employees have been contacted and at least two lifeguards want to return this year. There is one new applicant and the Town will advertise as soon as possible for the Pool Director position and lifeguard positions. About eight lifeguards are needed for normal operations. As applications come in, committee members will review résumés and schedule interviews. A swim team coach is also needed this year. Returning employees and one volunteer will be contacted about this position as well. A committee member will be contacting the Vermont Technical College pool director to get dates for lifeguard and water safety instructor certification trainings.
2. Summer Events: Registration Nights were scheduled for Tuesday, May 22 for Bethel residents and Wednesday, May 23 for Bethel residents and others. Each night's registration will run from 5:00 – 6:30 PM and will occur at the Whitcomb High School. This event will be advertised through a paid advertisement and a listing in the "events" section of the newspaper. Flyers will also be posted around Bethel in nearby communities. The Excel Camp visits the Rec. Center Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays throughout the summer. Visits include up to 30 children and 4 adults between the hours of 1:00 and 3:00 PM. Dana Anderson will put Bethel Rec. information in the Stockbridge School Newsletter to attract families from that nearby community. Opening day for the pool was set for Thursday, June 21, 2012. It was discussed that this would give staff adequate time to prepare programs and trainings and that it was close enough to the close of school. That day would also be the first Family Night of the season. Open House was scheduled for Thursday, June 28, 2012, with a rain date of Thursday, July 5, 2012. Swim lesson sessions were also set for the following dates: session one, July 2 – 13; session two, July 16 – 27; session three, July 30 – August 10. The pool closing date will be August 17, 2012. Family nights will remain every Tuesday and Thursday night throughout the season.
3. Master plan: Tabled until next meeting.
4. Committee recruitment: Dana Anderson will not be able to join the committee as she is not a Bethel resident. She will, however, attend meetings periodically and give much-needed information about camp group visits. Frances Staples was asked to join the committee, in which she responded in the affirmative. A memo and formal request for her inclusion will be brought to the Select board at their next scheduled meeting.

E) New business

1. Pool rates were discussed at length. Rates were raised overall last year and the committee felt that this year they should not be raised again. Research with other small communities will be done to glean information about how other recreation centers structure rates for non-residents, especially short-term summer residents.
2. A small grant that the Town applied to recently was won. Abbie Sherman announced that the New England ADA Field Based Program grant will award the Town of Bethel \$1,000 and they will conduct a training for their members at our center and conduct a site review of accessibility compliance.
3. There is a training meeting titled "the role of the citizen board member" being held in White River Junction on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 5:30 PM. Two recreation committee members will be attending.

F) Next meeting time, date, and location will be Monday, April 2, 2012 at 4:15 PM at the Whitcomb High School P.E. conference room.

G) Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Dulce Ricciardelli-O'Hare