

**Highgate Recreation Commission
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 15, 2021**

The Highgate Recreation Commission (HRC) board meeting was called to order at 5:32pm by Ty Choiniere. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Ty Choiniere, Chairman
Ryan Maskell, Vice Chairman
Karen Gagne Fortin, Secretary
Mark Gilbert, Director

Randy Connelly, Director
Shari Rainville, Director
Lee Barrett, Recreation Program Director

Public Comments: None

Ty wanted to Thank Brian Spears and Brian Fortin for their time on the HRC board. Ty added that they both stated they would be around to help when needed. Ty welcomed Randy Connelly to the HRC.

Board Reorganization:

HRC Chair Position: Karen Gagne Fortin made a motion to nominate Ty Choiniere for the HRC Chair position. Seconded by Mark Gilbert. All in favor, motion carried.

HRC Vice Chair Position: Ty Choiniere made a motion to nominate Ryan Maskell for the HRC Vice Chair position. Seconded by Mark Gilbert. All in favor, motion carried.

HRC Secretary Position: Mark Gilbert made a motion to nominate Karen Gagne Fortin for the HRC Secretary Position. Seconded by Shari Rainville. All in favor, motion carried.

Secretary's Report:

The secretary's report from the March 1, 2021 meeting was reviewed by all in attendance. A motion was made by Shari Rainville to accept the minutes. Seconded by Randy Connelly. All in favor, motion carried.

Programs Coordinator Report:

Lee Barrett sent a weekly report for the HRC board to review.

Spring Programs:

Lee stated the Turf Tike Soccer programs for ages 3,4 and 5 year olds are filling up. The first session has 11 out of 12 spots filled and the 2nd session has 3 out of 12 spots filled. Lee asked if anyone had any questions on the list he sent for equipment he was going to purchase from amazon.

Adult Cornhole: He currently has 2 teams registered and no teams registered for the youth.

He is preparing a "May the 4th be with you" for a Make and Take with legos.

Open Turn nights: Cornhole, Soccer, Batting Cage, etc.

Big Rig Day: Currently waiting on airport approval to hold at the airport. April 10th from 8am -12pm Lee hopes to have 50-60 trucks. Mark stated that if it does fall thru with the airport, he may be able to get the Field Days.

Summer Day Camp: Lee is currently working on putting together a summer day camp. He would like to cap it at 40 kids. Highgate Residents would be charged \$125 and Non-Residents \$135.

Farmers Market: It was suggested that we hold the Farmer's Markets on Friday evenings. It was suggested to invite food trucks and local groups for entertainment.

Logo: Lee presented the different logos versions to choose from. A motion was made by Randy Connelly to accept logo version number 7 as the new HRC logo. Seconded by Ryan Maskell. All in favor, motion carried.

Little League: Lee stated that Highgate Little League currently has 62 kids registered. It was suggested to extend the registration until Saturday, March 20th as the next meeting is Sunday, March 22nd.

Old Business:

Ice Out: The date of the ice removal will be dependent of the Milton High School's playoff outcome on Wednesday, March 17th. Ryan will be in touch with George Britch to move the turf into the arena. It was suggested to start getting quotes to purchase new turf.

Turf Rules: Ty asked if we had turf rules in place. Karen stated she would look to see if there is anything in writing from previous years as the turf was not used last year.

Snack Bar: Table until next meeting

New Business:

Advertising: Ty and Mark removed the signs from businesses that did not want to renew. Lee stated that he has received interest from two new businesses. Lee stated that the advertising contract needs to be updated. Shelley and Wendi would like to change the billing to reflect 30 days. Lee asked if the advertising on the outfield fence would be the same as inside the arena. It was suggested to see what other fields are charging so to be similar in prices.

Revenue Recovery: Mark suggested that we look into any Covid relief money that would be available to recover loss revenue from ice rental, turf rental and loss in wages for our employees. Mark and Lee will work on a letter to present to the Selectboard and Heidi.

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT): I was suggested to contact Ruthie Laroche to do an article on the LVRT and obtain historical information to post along the trail. It was suggested to contact Charlie Nye or Dennis Nolan at the Highgate Historical Society.

Raking Parks: It was discussed who will be raking the parks this Spring. It was suggested that we get bids from local lawn care or our employees take care of the parks. Unsure at this time if Little League will be interested this year.

Memorial in Park: Table

A motion to enter executive session was made by Ryan Maskell. Seconded by Mark Gilbert. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion to exit executive session was made by Ryan Maskell. Seconded by Mark Gilbert. All in favor, motion carried.

The next HRC meeting will be held on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom.

A motion was made by Ryan Maskell to approach the Highgate selectboard to recommend making Lee Barrett's HRC Program Director a fulltime position starting April 5, 2021. Seconded by Randy Connelly. All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Ryan Maskell to adjourn the Highgate Recreation Commission meeting. Seconded by Shari Rainville. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by

Karen Fortin
Highgate Recreation Commission Secretary