

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

The Highgate Recreation Commission (HRC) board meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Ty Choiniere. The meeting was held via Zoom.

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

Brian Fortin, Director
Shari Rainville, Director
Lee Barrett, Recreation Program Director

Absent: Brian Spears, Director

Guests: Randy Connelly

Public Comments: None

Secretary's Report:

The secretary's report from the February 1, 2021 meeting was reviewed by all in attendance. Ryan stated that he would like to amend the minutes to read, All Highgate Little League registration fees will be reimbursed back to Highgate Little League by the town once they are collected through Highgate's Recreations website. A motion was made by Ryan Maskell to amend and accept the minutes. Seconded by Mark Gilbert. All in favor, motion carried.

Programs Coordinator Report:

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

Lee is looking into some programs for the turf for pre school age such as Turf Tikes, T-Ball. Ty suggested Yoga tots or a dance/movement class. The Highgate library has held them in the past on the turf.

Little League: Ryan asked Lee where he was at with working on the memorandum? Lee stated he was going to begin working on it this week.

Ryan stated that Megan Rowell and John Sheets from the Highgate Little League have volunteered to be on the sub-committee. Ryan Maskell and Ty Choiniere will volunteer from the Highgate Recreation Commission along with Lee Barnett. Ryan will set up a meeting in the coming weeks with the Sub-Committee in the evening after 6pm.

New Business:

Scoreboard: Ty stated that he was able to fix the attachment to the scoreboard controller. Karen suggested leaving the controller in the score booth so there would be less wear and tear on the attachment rather than removing it each day when we are done with holding games. Karen asked Ty if he had ordered an on/off handheld clicker for the controller. She said she thought it was \$85. The one we currently have does not always work. Pete Roach who runs the clock for the MVU varsity games was asking for one and is willing to buy one himself. Ty stated that he will look into getting one ordered.

Office: Ty stated that he has reached out to Bruce Kilbury about adding heat to the office. He will be stopping in to look at it this week.

Trane: Ty stated that the ice surface is still to cold which makes the ice want to chip and is hard on the blades. Ty will contact Trane to set up a service call.

Livebarn: We have received a request to black out practices from a varsity coach. It was stated that people do pay for livebarn so they can watch their children or grandchildren. Karen stated that the Stowe Arena just had Livebarn installed and you have a code to log into to private viewing in order to watch games. Ty stated he would look into the possibility of using codes during varsity practices.

MVU Clinic- The MVU varsity coach has asked if we would donate one hour of ice for his clinic. He will be holding his 3rd session on February 21st. A motion was made by Mark Gilbert to deny the request as the HRC is not in the position to donate ice this year. Seconded by Shari Rainville. All in favor, motion carried.

Randy Connolly raised the question on who's insurance does the high school clinic fall under? It was stated that it has been run through the school in the past as it's a booster fundraiser. Ty asked Lee to follow up with John Lumsden.

Weekend Review: Milton High School is asking for 45 minutes rather than 30 minutes prior to a game. It was stated that there isn't much extra time to allow due to cleaning and sanitizing the arena prior to letting teams in. Karen asked do we hire someone between games on the weekend. Otherwise, we might have to lose another hour of ice sale if there isn't enough time for one person to get the cleaning and ice done between games. Lee stated he is willing to work some hours to help.

Grants: Mark asked Lee to look into any grants that might be available for loss of revenue due to Covid. Funding would help bridge the gap when we had to shut down.

Extend Ice Season: Randy Connolly asked if we would consider extending the ice season and keeping the ice on longer for camps, etc. Ty stated that we would revisit this at the March 1st meeting. Mark suggested that Lee send out a message to our customers to see if any of them would be interested in extending their season.

Election Day: Karen reminded everyone that March 2nd the Town of Highgate will not be holding a Town Meeting at the school. The Town Meeting Elections will be held in the lobby of the arena from 7am-7pm. Karen asked if we should still hold practices? It was agreed to continue with practices and possibly have Milton High School use the side entrance.

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

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

The next HRC meeting will be held on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom.

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