

**Highgate Recreation Commission
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 19, 2021**

The Highgate Recreation Commission (HRC) board meeting was called to order at 5:39pm by Ty Choiniere. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Ty Choiniere, Chairman
Ryan Maskell, Vice Chairman
Karen Gagne Fortin, Secretary

Randy Connelly, Director
Mark Gilbert, Director
Lee Barrett, Recreation Program Director

Absent from Meeting: Shari Rainville, Director

Public Comments: None

Secretary's Report:

The secretary's report from the April 5, 2021 meeting was reviewed by all in attendance. A motion was made by Mark Gilbert to accept the minutes. Seconded by Ty Choiniere. All in favor, motion carried.

Programs Coordinator Report:

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

Lee stated the Big Rig event held at the field days grounds was a great success with 300 goodie bags handed out to kids.

It was suggested to get 3 bids on prices for banners. Mark added that the outdoor banners would need the grommets and inside banners would not.

The selectboard has requested to hold their meetings at the rink. It was suggested they start in June once the turf rental is no longer available.

Spring Programs:

Turf Tike Soccer is going great. Currently has two on a waiting list for the second session. It was agreed to open it up to these two players. Lee stated that he would need additional shin guards and balls. Karen suggested purchasing 30 additional sets to have on hand so if a fall program was to be ran outside the rec would have them. A motion was made by Mark Gilbert to purchase 30 additional sets of shin guards and soccer balls. Seconded by Karen Fortin. All in favor, motion carried.

Adult Cornhole: Lee stated there are currently has 8 teams registered.

There are currently 6 signed up for the "May the 4th be with you" for a Make and Take with Legos. Lee is asking for approval to purchase the Lego sets of \$19 each. A motion was made by Ryan Maskell to purchase the Lego sets. Seconded by Mark Gilbert. All in favor, motion carried.

Let stated that has been no interest for the Open Turf nights so he will cancel and try again in the summer.

Summer Day Camp: Lee said there are currently 10 registered. He would like to cap it at 40 kids. Highgate Residents would be charged \$125 and Non-Residents \$135. Karen suggested an earlier deadline because people with wait for the very last minute to sign their child up.

Farmers Market: It was suggested to include both vendors and food trucks. Entertainment or a movie could also take place that same evening. The planning commission will be meeting on what to charge food trucks to park in town. It was suggested to invite food trucks and local groups for entertainment.

Lee stated that he has added Highgate Recreation Commission folders and documents on our One Drive.

Lee has asked if he could purchase paint to paint the office. The HRC gave Lee the okay to purchase the paint.

Advertisements: Lee is still waiting to hear back from Champlain Valley Equipment and Flowers by Debbie. It was suggested he send a follow up email.

Choiniere Family Farm: Lee will be meeting with Guy and Matt Choiniere about them opening their farm for youth cross country program and possibly some youth races. The HRC asked Lee to also ask about parking, insurance coverage and other events.

Lee added that he has been asked to make the keynote address at the Summer 2021 VRPA.

Little League: Ryan stated that game schedules came out yesterday. April 28th is the first game. Ty stated he sent Christian a message last week. He is interested in helping when he can. He is currently scheduled from 11am to 9pm in the Complex. Lee stated that he has heard from only 4 coaches on practice schedules. It was suggested to send Lucas a message for practice schedules. The new drag is at the arena. Ty stated that he has to pick up the new line liner at Kevin Smiths.

Old Business:

Memorial Day: Ty stated that the wings for the memorial have been installed. Keith Ploof and Ty met with the Memorial Day Committee. The flagpole is to be moved behind the monument. The selectboard has asked for the HRC approval of up to \$8000 to complete the monument project. A motion was made by Ryan Maskell in support of spending up to \$8000. Seconded by Karen Fortin. All in favor, motion carried. The Highgate Fire Department is planning a Drive through BBQ. The parade route will be longer and will eliminate walkers. It will include the Highgate Falls park. Ty asked about the flower beds and planters in the park. He would like them planted prior to Memorial Day. Karen stated that Kevin Flint usually works with the Library with planting the park planters. Karen added that she can work on the flower bed in the Highgate Falls park,

Trailer Sale: Ryan stated that Scott said he didn't really need it but if we can't get rid of it he would buy it. It was suggested to post it for sale for \$600.

Summer Sounds: Ty stated at the last meeting we had offered the ball fields as an option. Lee suggested the parking lot and people parking at the school. There was concern about people elderly people having to walk to the concert. Other options was in front of the building. Ty stated that we will need to discuss it further with Richard Harper.

Summer Projects:

Fix the leaks in the back hallway.
Build shelving for Little League
Paint hallway and locker room doors.

Laptops: Shelley was sent a message to order two lap tops.

New Business: Ty stated that there will be a safety audit by the insurance company on Monday, April 19th.

Future Projects: A possible dog park. Karen stated that she has had two people ask her about Highgate having a dog park. They currently go to St. Albans.

Mark suggested all board members bring different ideas to meetings. Ty stated that he and Lee will meet earlier the week prior to the meeting to put an agenda together and the goal is to have it sent out to the board by Thursday prior to the meeting.

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

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

The next HRC meeting will be held on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom.

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

Minutes Submitted by

Karen Fortin
Highgate Recreation Commission Secretary