

**Highgate Recreation Commission  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 18, 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 January 4, 2021 meeting was reviewed by all in attendance. Ryan stated that a Ty, Ryan and Lee were going to set up a meeting with Highgate Little League rather than attending the January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. 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 stated that he has contacted Rise VT and the Highgate Gym teacher. Lee will be meeting with Shelley and Wendi at the town office on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Lee has reached out to a graphic designer for a new logo. This would be used on letterhead and apparel. It was discussed and agreed that it should state Highgate Parks and Recreation.

Lee stated he revised the HRC mission statement to read, "Our mission at the Highgate Parks and Recreation Department is to promote parks, recreation and program opportunities where people of all ages can gather, celebrate and engage in activities that encourage well-being and community". A motion was made by Ryan to amend the mission statement. Seconded by Brian. All in favor, motion carried.

Everyone agreed to plan individual programs and a summer camp. Organize with the school schedule. It was also suggested to contact The Notch as they run a camp in Swanton and Richford last summer, NCSS and Joyce Lafar who has ran a summer camp previously in Highgate,

Other programs would be a Spring and Summer Cornhole League. Brian Fortin stated that he would help with that. Promote and schedule pickleball. Ty stated that Richard Flint wants to put a Summer running camp together. Ty added that he would also like to see a teen night with games or roller skating. Ryan stated that Brandi is interested in running Girls on the Run.

**Turf Rental:** Lee stated that Mel Hulbert the MVU girl's varsity field hockey coach has reached out and would like a two days a week for turf rental. There is also the possibility of running a Men's/Coed soccer league.

**New Business:**

Ryan stated he talked with Lucas Tatro with the Highgate Little League. Ty, Lee and Ryan will be setting up a meeting with Highgate Little League later this week.

Creating a Brochure or flyer for the upcoming recreations offering and events. Lee will look into different options. Karen stated that we could include the board advertiser and option to advertise in our brochure.

Ryan stated that he would like to see advertising on the Zamboni for next fall.

Sponsors for Soccer, Basketball, Cross Country and Summer camp shirts.

**Ice Updates:** Ty stated that he will have Lee reach out to Essex for Saturday morning. Randy asked about back up Zamboni drivers. What would happen if Brian Spears were to get sick or not able to cover the scheduled? Karen stated that she does know of a driver at the complex who is looking for some extra hours. She will get his contact information. Everyone agreed to fill any open spots with Household skates.

**Varsity Games:** Jeremy Letourneau has reached out as the contact for the Vermont Chapter of the High School officials. He is asking what our plan was to accommodate the high school officials as they do come from all over the state and want to keep everyone safe. It was agreed that we will open locker room #4 for the officials to use and clean and sanitize between games.

**Garage:** Ryan stated that the electrical should be completed inside and out for the garage. All bills should be submitted to the town.

**Zamboni:** Ty and Mark repaired the board brush. Mark stated a new dip stick needs to be ordered as it is leaking. Ty stated he wanted to thank Sharon Bousquet and Fleetpride for the help with the board brush.

**Town Report:** Ty stated that Lee Karen and himself reviewed and submitted at Highgate Parks and Recreation report for the Town Report.

**Highgate Library:** Lee stated that the Highgate Librarian would like to work together to promote their snowshoes.

**Selectboard Meeting:** Ty and Lee will be attending the next Selectboard meeting on Thursday.

Ryan Maskell stated that he would like to move forward with hiring a buildings and ground person.

A motion was made to move into executive session and invite Lee to attend by Ryan Maskell. Seconded by Brian Fortin. All in favor, motion carried.

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

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

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

Minutes Submitted by

Karen Fortin  
Highgate Recreation Commission Secretary