

**Highgate Recreation Commission  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 1, 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	Brian Fortin, Director
Ryan Maskell, Vice Chairman	Shari Rainville, Director
Karen Gagne Fortin, Secretary	Lee Barrett, Recreation Program Director

Absent: Brian Spears, Director, Mark Gilbert, Director

Guests: Randy Connelly

**Public Comments: None**

**Secretary's Report:**

The secretary's report from the February 15, 2021 meeting was reviewed by all in attendance. A motion was made by Ryan Maskell to accept the minutes. Seconded by Shari Rainville. All in favor, motion carried.

**Programs Coordinator Report:**

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

Little League: Lee stated that Little League registration is open on the HRC website until March 15<sup>th</sup>. Lee stated that the registrations have started coming. Karen suggested putting a flyer for registration in the lobby during voting.

Ryan stated that the Little League subcommittee met on Friday and reviewed the memorandum of agreement. The next meeting is March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ty added that he will get a barrel of lime from Swanton Lime. Little League will schedule and work with Lee to schedule the fields. Karen stated that she has a DR pull behind tiller if Little League wants to try it in the fields.

Grant Opportunity: Lee stated that there are Major League Baseball grants available statewide for field renovation that he will look into.

Extending the ice Season: Lee stated that it does not appear that there is interest to extend the ice season. Organizations do not have additional ice in their budgets. It was recommended to move forward with turf rental. Lee stated that he has started renting turf for programs and putting a Spring League Cornhole together.

Big Rig Day will be held at the Franklin County airport on April 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be a drive-thru event.

Lee stated that he has interviewed Rachel Fitzsimons for summer employment.

HRC Logo: Lee sent the HRC board different options for the logo. Everyone was in agreement to go with Logo #4 with Blue on the top, green trees and hills. Use the font from the bottom right with the sports figures.

Farmer's Market: Lee has put out messages looking for vendors for a Farmer's Market. He would like to include a band, story time or a movie night at the end of Farmer's Market each week.

**New Business:**

**Office Heat:** Ty stated that he met with Bruce Kilbury about adding heat to the office. Bruce suggested adding a baseboard. A motion was made by Karen Fortin to accept the CSI quote of \$2710 for the cost of the baseboard installation. Seconded by Ryan Maskell. All in favor, motion carried. Ty stated he will try to schedule the installation on a Wednesday.

**Ice Out:** The last day of ice will be March 23<sup>rd</sup> with the ice being removed on the 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>. The Town of Highgate will hold the annual rabies clinic on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm. Ryan stated he will coordinate with George Britch to move the turf into the arena. Ty stated we will have to coordinate volunteers to help roll out the turf so it will be ready for Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Ice Temperature:** Ty stated that Trane came today, and the ice was 22 degrees. Ty stated all the sensors are working. Brian Spears has stated that the ice is hard. It was stated with the maximum air movement as recommended by Covid guidelines that the dehumidifier maybe drying out the ice, especially during the time of November 14<sup>th</sup> – January 4<sup>th</sup> when the ice was not in use.

**Zamboni Blades:** Ty stated that the Sharpening Shed has not been picking up the blades from the Zamboni for sharpening. Karen stated that she would check with Mark at the complex to see if they were having the same issue. Mark Gilbert was going to check with Cairn's arena. Brian Spears had to drive the last blades to Newport to have them sharpened.

**Spring/Summer Running Programs:** The MVU and Richford high school coaches want to start a running camp. Richard Flint will work with Guy Choiniere for the use of his trails. The rail trail would also be available to use.

**Girls on the Run:** Brandi Maskell will be running the Girls on the Run starting April 6<sup>th</sup> until May 27<sup>th</sup>. Sessions will be held on Tuesday and Thursdays from 3:00pm-4:30pm.

**MAHA Connex Box:** Ty stated that he will ask the selectboard about having a contract put in place for MAHA to have the use of the bay in the HRC garage and ask about using the connex box in lieu of rent from MAHA. Karen stated that new, the connex was purchased for \$3200 and was sold to MAHA for \$2500. It was stated that would the HRC need the additional storage.

**Bike Station:** We have a Rise Vt grant for a bike station and covered bulletin board near the walking path and rail trail.

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

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

The next HRC meeting will be held on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom.

Ryan Maskell thanked Brian Spears and Brian Fortin for the time they served on the HRC facility board

A motion was made by Ryan Maskell 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