

**Town of Northfield  
Recreation Committee  
Meeting Minutes March 14, 2016  
Municipal Building 6:00 p.m.**

Attendees: Sally Davidson, Michele Langley, Heidi Passalacqua, members; Chris Cummings (community members) Ken Goslant (Select Board liaison); Nate Freeman selectman/Northfield community development network; Jessica Amell community member ; absent: Scott Amell, Bruce Wright(members)

- I. Call to order: 6:10 pm introductions
- II. Review and approval of minutes of February 14, 2015 minutes: discussed the minutes of last meeting. Group had not added to minutes since Heidi had to leave and agreed to have Heidi type up additions to minutes for approval for next meeting. Not approved.
- III. Public participation: Nate Freeman discussed Northfield Community Development Network or "NCDN" and their role in what their group is doing. They want to function in Northfield community as group in fundraising, action, energy, economic and help. They want to work as a help with 501 c 3 and grants, act as a fiscal agent if need be for groups, work in partnership and not duplicate what is already being done. Sally had met with their group on another reason in pertaining to the Christmas decorations which led to the "banners" project in town she is now working on with Wendy Rae from Northfield Savings Bank( banners that hang on flag poles in and around town that coincide with downtown designation and decorations around holidays, or sponsorship). They have been meeting with Sally along with different projects. The hope is to interact and collaborate. They are meeting in April. Jessica suggested there was a gentleman in valley that does signs as well as VT community foundation that does investments to non-profits. Sally will act as liaison to this group. Jessica expressed interest in joining committee and also sits on farmers' market group. She will act as liaison with that. She will submit letter as well as Chris Cummings.
- IV. Michele gave Treasurers report as of January statement: total funds 3, 580.16. Of this it divides into pieces such as \$550. Is administrative fund. The Capital improvement fund 2551.59. \$ 5,000.00 safety issues. Design update \$6955.47. Group discussed how difficult statement is to read, went to town book which is even more difficult to understand. Heidi gave report of \$250.00 to be added to donations fund/grant portion to be reported in new business.
- V. Old business: Winter Carnival: events that happened after action reports: Sally went to chili cook off. 7 entrants participated with Winners were: first prize defending champion Kevin Reed, second prize Sarah Gerdes , third prize Kyle Ashford. Prizes were donated by recreation committee. Sally had discussion with Sarah Gerdes who was disappointed that "no one, but Sally was "around" from the Recreation Committee to support the event. Discussed that communication needed to be better on both ways about expectations for event. The Cornerstone, Depot Square Pizzeria and Cutting Loose were the prizes. Sally will do the thank you notes for these businesses.

In talking about the snow shoeing and cross country skiing that didn't happen because of the weather we discussed that there should have been an alternative because the conservation committee would have something like hiking. Sally mentioned that the plan had been to make something educational about it anyway so next year we will do that. Indoor or outdoor events WILL happen.

Volley ball: Geoff/Scott. Initially it was set up with wrong nets that weighed down the poles, but group improvised and got the right set up. Had five teams and went well 9-4. Geoff's niece sold baked goods and items which was a good idea on her part. Whole group was self-manned. Geoff went over rules prior to starting. There were about 30-40 people there. Geoff reported the five captains of their teams were sore, but a good time was had and would definitely do again.

Swimming/Heidi: Julia Passalacqua, Shannon Palone, Colleen Przekaza, and Tori Lance lifeguards. Had about 25-30 people show up over the 3 hours. The groups seemed to enjoy themselves jumping in, diving, and splashing around. Shannon even ended up giving a few lessons. Some parents commented that they wished this was a more common event. Sally will send out thank you notes to them for their service.

Basketball:/Steve Cicio had 5 people with Bruce Wright, Scott, TJ Powers and a few others show @ high school 12-2pm.

Ice skating didn't happen due to ice being pulled out at last minute due to Norwich teams being out of their playoffs and Norwich decided to take up the ice.

Without the ice we could have done floor hockey, indoor soccer at Shapiro? Or Pickle ball.

- IV New Business: Heidi wrote a grant and submitted it to Rotary Club for \$500. She reported that she received word that \$250.00 has been awarded to our committee. Discussed the next steps to receiving the funds to the event which will occur 4/2/16. There is several items that need to be done for this. Michele will email Nicole DiDomenico of Rotary for clarification on what a couple of them are. One of them is to help promote their pie and coffee fundraiser on that day for \$5.00 a person at the high school event is 10-2pm. This is the same day as a couple of other fundraisers and does conflict. Will discuss the "power point" slide as well as our plans have somewhat evolved from originally completed from when Norwich did planning project. None of current board is really "savvy" on the power point part. Will clarify this with Nicole.

Discussed a Halloween idea.

- VI. Next meeting Monday April 11, 2016 at 6pm
- VII. Adjournment