

Milton Recreation & Conservation Commission Joint Meeting Minutes

Wed, August 12, 2020

5:00 pm

Fieldhouse Pavilion in Bombardier Park West (outdoors)

Milton, VT

Recreation Commission Members Present: John Lindsay Chair, Rod Moore and Renee Berteau (in-person); Sharon Radtke Vice-Chair (via phone)

Absent: None

Conservation Commission Members: Dan Gaherty Chair, Judith Kinner Vice Chair, Laurie DiCesare Clerk, William Pikul, Juli Tyson and Bonnie Pease

Staff Present: Kym Duchesneau Recreation Director; Ben Nappi Assistant Recreation Director; Kris Dulmer Tree Warden

Presenter: Rosy Metcalfe, RiseVT

Community Members: Shannon & Angela King, Ryan Bushey

1. **Call to Order:** Recreation Commission meeting called to order by Lindsay at 5:10pm

2. **Amendments to Agenda:** None

3. **Public Forum:** None

4. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Moved by Radtke and seconded by Moore. June 10, 2020 minutes approved as written.

5. Recreation Department Report:

Spring & Summer Programs, Events & Camps:

- Spring and summer programs wrapped up this week for the summer. The Senior Camp Counselor left for personal reasons mid-way through the season however, the other two Counselors were able to run things very well together. Recreation Commission Chair Lindsay's Backyard Rocket Launch at camp went very well and the Campers enjoyed it. Although the summer season was quite different due to the pandemic, overall Camp went very well and was a success.
- Sadly, most other camps were cancelled this summer except for two sessions of Junior Golf Camp. Hoping that Tennis Camp will have enough to run in mid-August.
- Ladies Learn to Golf went well and was very successful all summer.
- Virtual activities, programs and events –Celebrate Summer Fun Photo Contest was very successful with over 30 families participating. Will offer a Backyard Photo Challenge for the month of August. Prizes will be a \$25 gift certificate for Avalon Pools & Spas and a one-hour consultation with a UVM Master Gardener.

Fall & Winter Programs, Events & Sports:

- Programs and events will be mix of in-person and virtual.
- Using the Milton Grange on Tuesday evenings to offer classes such as Women's Self-Defense, Zumba and more. Masks will be required, there will be small groups and social distancing required.
- Virtual classes will include Ukulele, Activities Fair, Monthly Photo Challenges, etc.

- Taking photos in the BIG Adirondack chair in the Park has been a hit.
- Plan on doing the Holiday Tree Lighting with less people, socially distanced and with Santa walking around the grounds. Also planning to host Letters to Santa as well.
- Touch a Truck and Trunk or Treat are not going to be able to happen this year. Looking to host alternative Halloween and Holiday events.
- Pumpkin Decorating Contest might be virtual with people all doing it at home and sharing through ZOOM. The Home Holiday Decorating Contest should go on as in the past.
- There will only be Youth Soccer this fall - no Little League, Lacrosse or Football.

New Recreation Director Search - update:

- Nappi, Lindsay and Human Resources Director John Bartlett have held interviews with eight excellent candidates. Narrowed down to one finalist who has been offered the position and will hopefully accept. Would like the new Director to spend a couple of weeks shadowing Duchesneau as a transition. Duchesneau's last day is Fri, Sept. 4.

Other Recreation Business:

- Recreation Commission Nominations and Elections:
 - Berteau nominated Lindsay as Chair. Radtke seconded. All in favor. Lindsay unanimously elected Recreation Commission Chair.
 - Berteau nominated Radtke Vice-Chair. Lindsay seconded. All in Favor. Radtke unanimously elected Recreation Commission Vice-Chair.

5:30pm - Conservation Commission and Recreation Commission Joint Meeting began

Recreation & Conservation Commission – Joint Updates & Discussion:

- Duchesneau gave an update about the trails and about adding three new BBQ grills, two benches and a message board kiosk to the Park. The benches and kiosk were funded by a RiseVT amplify grant. A BIG Adirondack chair, built by community member John Gifford, has been added where residents and visitors can take pictures with Cobble Hill in the background. There was discussion about improving the Disc Golf Course as there is an active group of volunteers working on this proposed project. Nappi reported that \$10K in funding was approved in the FY21 Capital Budget and became available on July 1, 2020 for improvement to trails including creating gravel pathways.

Guest – Rosy Metcalfe from RiseVT

- Metcalfe from RiseVT gave a presentation and led a discussion with both Commissions and community members in attendance regarding trails and biking. RiseVT is a non-profit whose mission is to gather and provide resources to live healthier lifestyles. Metcalfe discussed how Milton has some of the best trails in Vermont and RiseVT can assist Milton in upgrading the trails. Metcalfe has numerous suggestions on how to do so.
- Metcalfe, as well as community members S. King, A. King and Bushey, referenced the updated Milton Recreation Master Plan and expressed interest and enthusiasm in a possible Bike Path project in Milton They expressed interest and excitement in pursuing dusting off work done by the previous ad hoc Milton Pathways Committee (circa 2007) and expanding upon it. Duchesneau and Nappi said they would talk with Town Manager Don Turner about this and will circle back.

7. Next Meeting

- Wed, September 9, 2020 at 5pm

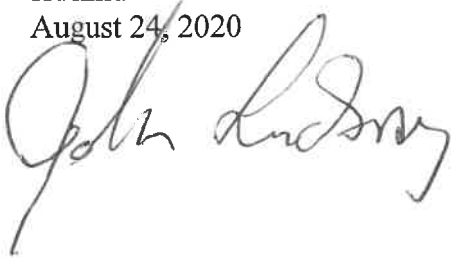
8. Adjournment

- Berteau moved to adjourn. Seconded by Lindsay. Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

srt/kmd

August 24, 2020

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Lindsay". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name and date.