

**Milton Recreation Commission Minutes**  
**Wednesday October 14, 2020**  
**5:00 PM**  
**Town Managers Conference Room**

**Recreation Commissioner Members Present:** Sharon Radtke Vice Chair (via phone) Ryan Bushey, Rod Moore **Absent:** John Lindsay Chair, Rene Berteau.

**Staff Present:** Jenna Tucker, Ben Nappi

1. **Call to Order:** 5:07pm
2. **Amendments to Agenda:** Jenna Tucker requesting members use Town email accounts for Recreation Commission business, to follow open meeting rules. Discussion those members present agreed. Ben will forward instructions on how to forward Town emails to personal account to make reviewing easier, just asked if going to reply to use your Town email account.
3. **Public Forum:** None
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Held till next meeting
5. **Recreation Department Report:**
  - a. Disc Golf Update: Volunteers continued to work over the past weekend. They have 9 Volunteers working and the numbers are growing. Pole 7 and 8 are completed they're working on pole 9. We will be working with the Town for work with a wood chipper. Also are working on better signage pointing out Blue Trail and Disc Golf Trail, they have had walkers on the golf trail.
  - b. Bombardier Park Trails: Met with Ryan and Shannon King adding a Pilot Program for bike trails in west side of Bombardier Park West. Will be mapping area, working with Planning Dept. and Select Board to start support work
  - c. VRPA Conference Overview: Jenna and Ben attended the 2 day virtual conference on September 23 and 24. Both said it was useful and will help with future events. Some highlights included "Open Spaces" a data driven lecture noting positive community outcomes with used open spaces. "COVID Planning" moving events to virtual events, increased use of trails, using QR codes for self-guided events. "Recruitment" describing ways to recruit and retain recreation volunteers.
  - d. Program Guide: Low numbers of participants in Recreation events, not sure if this is a COVID issue or a lack of getting the brochures out. No longer have Milton Independent to send out brochures Jenna and Ben did look into direct mailing, this would add \$8-\$10,000 more a

year to do. Brochures have been dropped off throughout town some places multiple times. Discussion about increasing social media presence to more than just Front Porch, Facebook and Town web site. Jenna and Ben are starting to work on the winter guide ready for first week of January. Concern with low senior involvement – again not sure if due to COVID or other issues.

- e. Upcoming Fall / Winter events:
  - i. Spirited Homes of Milton contest: Rebranded the Halloween decoration contest. We have 4 of 12 businesses and 12 of 12 residents participating. Judging will be on October 20, judges will be Jenna, Ben and Public Safety Director Michaela Foody. Awards for Most Spirited, Runner Up, Best use of Recycled Materials. Will have a map and online polling for public use to pick the People’s Choice Award.
  - ii. Explore Milton Challenge will be launched before end of the month, a scavenger hunt which will be active till the end of the year.
  - iii. Holiday Decorating Contest, will be following Halloween guidelines
  - iv. Letters to Santa: Boxes will be put out for kids to submit their letter to Santa. Volunteer will forward Santa’s responses to kids.
  - v. Tree Lighting – December 5<sup>th</sup> – still working on COVID plans for the event.
- f. FY22 Recreation Budget: Jenna submitted a budget draft to Jess Morris. Budget was level funded. Within the budget an increase to camp counselor pay, increase in advertising, increase in uniform, Budget allocations to sport teams were down due to teams not submitting requests. Jenna also has increase for repair and maintenance projects at park sites.
- g. FY22 Capital Improvement Projects: Tennis courts resurfacing \$25,000. Heating in Field House \$15,000. Water to Dog Park. Will be looking for grants to apply for to help pay for, Shannon also assisted to help out with grants. Ryan offered to get kids to help with water to dog park, advised he assisted with another project like it.

**6. Recreation Commission Report:**

- a. Ryan Bushey was approved by the Select Board on Monday Oct 12, 2020. Welcome Ryan!
- b. Vermont Coaches / Masks: A letter was sent to the Vermont Coaches and Referees Association highlighting that Milton Recreation request following national standards of mask wearing due to COVID by coaches and referees. Soccer contacted as well, and was assured

that all are wearing masks at all times that doesn't interfere with refereeing (blowing whistles)

- c. Meeting Date Change: Next meeting date moved to Wednesday November 18<sup>th</sup> at 5pm instead of November 11<sup>th</sup>. Motion made by Sharron, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rod Moore
- d. Joint Conservation and Recreation fall meeting moved to Spring of 2021

**7. Next Meeting November 18, 2020 at Town Managers Conference Room**

Motion to close Ryan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharron at 6:25pm