



**Walpole Recreation Committee
Meeting Held on February 21, 2018
Lower Blackburn Hall - 7:00 p.m.
30 Stone Street - Walpole, MA 02081**

Recreation Committee Present:

- Regular Members: Rich McCarthy, William Buckley, Joseph Grant
- Associate Members: Lorraine Dundon, Jeffrey Hutnick

Staff Present:

- Patrick Shield, Recreation Director
- Brendan Croak, Assistant Recreation Director

Call to Order:

- Chairman McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Director's Report:

Discussion about previous months since last meeting: The Director gave a summary of winter programming, as well as highlights from the previous month. Such highlights included, but were not limited to, Recreation Basketball, Vacation Rec, and Playgroup. The Director mentioned that the Art Room at Blackburn Hall will be undergoing a renovation at the conclusion of February Vacation. The renovation will include the painting of the walls. The floor will be replaced at some point in the near future, as well.

The Director gave an overview of the Spring Preview that was distributed to all Walpole Households. Spring registration is scheduled to open on Monday, February 26. Session 1 programming begins on Monday, March 26. Session 2 will begin on Monday, May 14.

The Director also noted that the Program Coordinator job posting has been posted. The application deadline is Thursday, March 1.

New Business

A. Fields Meeting - 2/28

A Fields Workshop will be taking place at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28 at Walpole Town Hall. Richard McCarthy, Joseph Grant, Jeffrey Hutnick, and William Buckley all stated that they will make an attempt to attend the workshop.

Mr. Grant inquired about who was on the selection committee for the Route 1A Field interviews that will be taking place on Monday, February 26.

There was some discussion about the field fees that the user groups in town pay on a seasonal basis. The Director noted that with the inclusion of the Route 1A Fields, some consideration needs to be made in the future about the current field fee schedule. In addition, a suggestion was made to increase the rate for outside groups for use of Turco Field.

B. Smiling Eyes Subcommittee

The Director requested that the Smiling Eyes Subcommittee review a handout that shall be given to businesses and organizations to solicit donations to the Smiling Eyes Scholarship program.

Ms. Dundon inquired about the application process that families must go through in order to be considered for scholarship assistance.

Mr. Hutnick made a comment about the possible inclusion of having a write-up about Smiling Eyes in the seasonal previews (specifically the Summer Preview) that are mailed to Walpole residents. He explained that this could bring some positive attention to the program to individuals who may be unaware of this opportunity in town.

Old Business

The Director provided an update on the Spring / Summer 2018 Action plan.

Mr. Hutnick inquired about the possibility of allowing use of the pond at Jarvis Farm on the weekends. The Director is actively looking into the process and meeting with various boards and departments to see what steps need to be taken to explore possibilities.

The Director mentioned that the department is currently finalizing the details for summer Basketball clinic.

A status update was given by the Director on the planning for Junior Police Academy.

The Director provided an update on the General Fund Budget for FY2019, which was approved by the Finance Committee at their meeting on February 15, 2018. In addition the General Fund Budget, an update was given on the Recreation Revolving Accounts, with comparisons to last fiscal year.

Public Comment:

- None.

Minutes:

A. January 10th Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Chairman McCarthy, second by Mr. Grant, the Committee voted (3-0) to approve the meeting minutes from the January 10 Meeting.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.