

Draft

Commission Members Present:

Mark Lane; Chair, Peter Robart; Treasurer, Gary Martin, Pam Fitzgerald, Don Janik, Todd Santora, and Larry Smith. (7)

Absent:

Lyn Stan. (1)

Mark Lane called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Minutes

Motion: Larry Smith moved to accept the October 19, 2015 minutes as written. Second: Pam Fitzgerald. Motion passed 6-0-1. (Abstained: Todd Santora).

2. Christmas tree Lighting

Tuesday Orluk, Stacie Ohsberg, and Marisa Almeda expressed interest for a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony to be held on December 6, 2015, along with serving free hot chocolate, candy canes, and a children's choir will sing, Dr. Lawrence will attend, there will be songs, and music. The gathering will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the tree lighting will be at 7:00 p.m. This will be a great opportunity for bringing the community together.

Mark Lane agreed to inquire about a selectmen's permit.

Motion: Larry Smith moved to approve the Christmas tree lighting activities on December 6, 2015, beginning on 6:30 p.m. with a 7:00 p.m. tree lighting. Second: Gary Martin. Motion passed 7-0-0.

The Commission agree to assist with marketing this event on the electronic bulletin board, face book page, and the light board on the common.

The Commission expressed appreciation to Tuesday Orluk, Stacie Ohsberg, and Marisa Almeda for organizing this event.

3. Arts on the Common Update

Mark Lane reported:

Summer Camp (Out of Order) - The financial information is with the bookkeeper, Stacey Bellen is interested with a student tent at the Arts on the Common event.

b. Sub-committee? No update at this time.

4. Treasurer Report

Peter Robart presented an accounting of the budget and the total budget is currently \$21,045.

Peter Robart agreed to consult with Lori Ruest in regards to individual parks/recreation accounts.

5. Yoga Fall Session update

Yoga classes began a second session on Monday, November 2, 2015 from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. for six consecutive weeks. The cost is \$10 per week or \$50 up front for the six week session.

6. 300th celebration

Don Janik reviewed the meeting highlights from the Heritage Committee meeting held on Nov 2, 2015. Highlights include: looking for a steering committee for the event to be held in 2022, updating the town history, elm trees purchase program, music, food, sports, re-enactments, progressive dinners, fireworks, dinners with foods, sports, and music that might have been served 300 years ago, 200 years ago. Looking for fund raising events.

7. New Members

The commission will continue to recruit two new members.

8. New Business

a. Ice skating rink

Whitney Nowak inquired if an ice-skating rink could be constructed in the Governor Weare Park.

A private contractor who built the skating rink at Strawberry Bank would be interested in building, managing and properly maintaining a skating rink. Refrigeration would be needed. Refrigeration could be rented or bought, sell hot dogs, and hot chocolate. The man-made skating pond would need to be large. Upfront costs would be needed which could be \$20,000- to \$30,000.

Raspberry Farm pond is available for ice skating. Maintenance would be needed. Huge liability that would need a person to monitor the safety of the ice on the pond.

The Commission agreed not to move forward with an ice-skating rink.

b. Other new business

- Pam Fitzgerald introduced:

Ball room dancing would be held for 6 weeks beginning in mid-January. Costs would be \$45 per person and \$90 per couple. Looking for four to ten couples. Time would be at 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

The Commission would be asked to maintain the sign-up list and collecting the funds.

The Commission agreed to move forward with ballroom dancing.

Pam Fitzgerald would inquire about the Town Hall or School availability at night.

- Peter Robart introduced:

A site-walk to determine a cross country ski trail at the Raspberry Farm. More information will be forthcoming.

- Larry Smith introduced:

UNH engineering senior project along with the DOT are looking towards a Conceptional trail through Hampton Falls getting across the marsh along the railroad trail. They are looking for volunteers from railroad buffs, bicyclists and walkers for volunteer assistance. Communities, organizations and grant programs may be available for funding.

- Raspberry Farm Town Celebration for the tree burning in January can be discussed at the next meeting.

Motion: Peter Robart moved to continue the Christmas tree burn at the Raspberry Farm in January, 2016. Second: Larry Smith. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Motion: Peter Robart moved to change the December, 2015 meeting to Monday, December 14th. Second: Don Janik. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Motion to amend: Peter Robart moved to change the December, 2015 meeting to Monday, December 14th to address and plan the Christmas tree burning party held in January, 2016 and because December 21st meeting is close to Christmas. Second: Don Janik. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Larry Smith volunteered to teach cross country skiing at the January Christmas tree burning party at the Raspberry Farm.

Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes
Monday, November 9, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
<url:facebook.com/hfparksandrec>

Hampton Falls Town Hall
1 Drinkwater Road
Hampton Falls, NH 03844

Motion: Peter Robart moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Second: Larry Smith.
Motion passed 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Hastings

Recording Secretary