

Francestown Rec Commission  
Minutes  
April 8, 2024, 6:00 PM

Present: Bob Bitterli, Marcy Tripp, Eileen Laramee-Byers, Lily Woodbury, Laura Mafera, Pam Berry

1. Bob called Meeting to order.
2. Minutes from March 11<sup>th</sup> and March 27<sup>th</sup> were approved, Pam moved, and Eileen seconded.
3. Linda Mikula/Paul Chartrain "Let's Go Fishing" NH Fish & Game presented to us. They are F&G volunteers. They proposed a fishing class of 3 hours ( 9-12, then actual fishing for 3 hours. They provide equipment and no license is required. Antrim beach was suggested as a venue. Children under 8 must have a parent present. It was suggested that fly tying might be taught at the library.
4. Old Business
  - a. Yoga, is busy on Thursdays, but slow on Tuesdays.
  - b. Line Dancing is very successful, she will donate half the money to the rec department.
  - c. Mother & Toddler programs are slow. It was suggested that the Mother and Toddlers might combine with the homeschool group at the library. Laura will speak with Sarah Hardwick.
5. New Business
  - a. Speakers Series
    - i. Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Larry Ames from FLT. Marcy will resend graphic to Eileen . Pam will do publicity and update the town calendar.
    - ii. May. Laura will ask Tom Kiirlin to do a fly fishing demonstration.
  - b. Young writers, Illustrations will be finalized at next meeting. Bob is getting books made.
  - c. Science Fair, set for April 13, 10-12, has well qualified judges. Publicity is out.
  - d. Market news: There will be a food truck during the market the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday. Game night will be behind TH that night. Lily and Laura will investigate games left in the sheds. Pam continues to promote and manage the market beautifully.
  - e. Coffee House. managed by Pam and JP Storher, is going very well. Bob will continue to search for storage cabinets.
  - f. Tennis/Pickleball Court resurfacing has been priced at about \$20,000 to \$25,000. Bob is managing the project.

- g. BioBlitz will be held in May. Marcy will work with the Conservation Commission's Anna Jo Dingman, and get promotional information to Pam and Eileen. May 11, 10 am. Rand Brook will be the destination.

#### 6. 2024 Legacy Projects

- i. Easter Egg Hunt, Bob suggested we need more activities., Lily suggested perhaps a "golden" egg.
- ii. Memorial Fishing Tournament will be run by Bob Rokes. Marcy will contact him for time and date..We need to find the sign.
- iii. 4<sup>th</sup> of July will have homerun derby at the ball fields, all other events at the town hall area. Someone suggested a bon fire with marshmallows and hotdogs in lieu of fireworks.
- iv. FRC will study the possibility of Youth Soccer in the fall. Kids would ride the bus from school to the ball field.
- v. The Annual Pickleball Tournament is scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Bob will be the lead on it.
- vi. Marcy asked about Francestown arts Fest that has been ongoing or several years. It will be held during a Friday Market in the fall. She will be the lead for the art fest.
- vii. Bob proposed a major "Francestown Art Festival" in the spring (100-200 artists). There were concerns about competing with the FHIS's Labor Day art show. The proposal was tabled until a discussion with FHIS could be had.

#### 7. New Business

- a. Board Expansion to seven voting members was approved earlier. Pam Stohrer has agreed to join the board. Marcy moved and Eileen seconded, unanimously approved.
- b. Two non-voting members were also suggested: Eddie Hardwick agreed to join us. Laura moved his approval and Bob seconded. Unanimous approval was voted.
- c. Review Board Applicants (we have no voting member seats open and 1 alternate)
- d. Pond Activities will be managed by Lily. Lily will be appointed as "Pond Manager" and will also serve as Senior Beach Host". She will be compensated at an hourly rate of \$16 for managing and acting as beach host. Marcy moved and Bob seconded. We may ask for help from the fire department with set up.
  - i. Lifeguards, Lily will contact Hampshire Hills who train lifeguards.
  - ii. Swim Instructor
  - iii. Opening, Setting Floats, Dock, Clean up

#### 8. 2024 New Projects

- i. Marcy suggested a teen night, one Saturday a month, Laura will reach out to the Grapevine in Antrim for coordination and ideas.

- ii. Monthly family outdoor activities (Hiking, town beach, baseball games....) were suggested. We need to inventory existing programs and coordinate with other organizations.
  - b. Bob and Pam are working on publicity in the FTN, online and posters.
  - c. Sam has left the board and will be sorely missed. We agreed to all chip in for a \$200 gift certificate to the Waterhouse Restaurant.
9. Bob moved the next board meeting to be scheduled for 6 May 2024 at 6:00 PM. Laura seconded the motion. The motion carried.
10. Marcy moved that we adjourn at 8 pm and Laura seconded, the motion was unanimously approved.