

DRAFT

East Montpelier Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2018

Members in attendance –Janice Aldrich, Bob Fitch, Jack Zeilenga, Alex Rob, Michael Blanchard, Paul Winter, Cristin O’Donnell

Meeting called to order 7:25 PM

- Minutes from March 12 meeting approved.
- Financial overview
 - Currently have a little under \$10,000 in cash.
- Easter Egg Hunt
 - Jan reported that the egg hunt was very successful. Had about 75 kids show up.
 - Five parent volunteers helped to stuff eggs.
 - Plan is to work more closely with Scouts next year to have them assist with the stuffing and hunt.
- Baseball update
 - Registration closed April 9. Over 55 East Montpelier kids signed up.
 - Due to small numbers at some schools some teams will be combined.
 - Calais will play with East Montpelier (except minors team).
 - East Montpelier will have 2 T-ball teams, 2 Farm teams, 1 large minors team and 1 majors team.
 - There will be a coaches’ meeting to get ready to kick things off on April 12. Season is scheduled to begin on May 5.
 - Softball is being coordinated by a woman in Berlin. Only one EMES girl signed up for softball and will be playing on the Berlin team. East Montpelier T-ball and Farm teams both have a number of girls playing.
 - Batting Cage
 - Paul has had discussions with a carpenter and has a plan to rebuild the batting cage that was heavily damaged during the fall wind storm.
 - New cage will be combination of pressure treated lumber set in concrete along with metal poles from original cage that were not damaged. East Montpelier Home Center is giving a discount on the lumber and a carpenter is giving a discounted rate for the building work.
 - Board unanimously approved Paul’s request to spend up to \$600 for the batting cage project.
 - Scoreboard
 - New scoreboard will be put up soon on the majors’ field.

- Bleachers
 - Bob did a lot of research on replacement bleachers for the Rec Field. Had already been approved to spend up to \$3,500 on bleachers. The board originally discussed purchasing four bleachers (15 feet long, three rows high). There was concern among some members that the cost of buying four bleachers was too much and it was ultimately decided that two bleachers should be ordered at this time.
 - Board voted 6-1 to approve Bob to purchase two, 15-foot, three row aluminum bleachers.
- Lacrosse
 - Bob updated the board on the U-32 lacrosse clinic that will take place over five weeks at U-32 this spring. Flyers will go out soon.
 - Bob is researching the possibility of having the Rec Board oversee a lacrosse team at the elementary school level in 2019 that would include players from the U-32 sending towns.
 - There was discussion as to whether this team would need to have an East Montpelier name and the board indicated it could take on whatever name was appropriate. Given the affiliation with U-32 the name Central Vermont Raiders or something similar was agreed to be the best option.
- Grant Application Process
 - Any grant that the EM Rec Board wishes to apply for must be approved by the town. The board need to go before the selectboard for authorization before applying.
 - Bob is hoping to apply for a lacrosse grant and will work with the selectboard.
- Rec Field tree and poison ivy cleanup.
 - Paul has a VTC student who has been surveying and studying the issue of the trees and poison ivy along the fence at the Rec Field. He will design a full layout of the area and plan for removal that the Rec Board will bring before the selectboard for approval.
- Fundraising
 - Tabled until future meeting
- Policy Manual Update
 - The selectboard will review the updated policy and athletic manuals at their April 23 meeting for final approval. If approved the Rec Board will likely be required to vote on officers at the May meeting.
- Spring Cleanup
 - The annual spring cleanup at the Rec Field is scheduled for Saturday, April 28 at 10 AM.
- Soccer
 - Mike Blanchard reported that scheduling is all set for Onion River Soccer to use the recreation field this spring.
- Trash and Porto-Potties at Rec Field
 - No need to re-up our service this year as it has been continuously covered through the winter. Will revisit whether this is something we want to do next year or go back to cancelling service in the winter.

Meeting adjourned 8:20 PM

Next meeting to be held on May 14 at 7:15 PM, East Montpelier Elementary School.