

East Montpelier Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2020

Members in attendance –Janice Aldrich, Bob Fitch, Jason DeForge, Kate Bean, Michael Blanchard, Jack Zeilenga, Paul Winters (phone in), Owen Micah-Smith

Meeting called to order 7:19 PM

- Minutes from February 10 meeting approved.
- Financial overview
 - No updates
- Treasurer Transition
 - Bob is not interested in continuing in the position of treasurer but is staying on as a board member. He gave an overview of the position and board members will consider who may be interested.
- Easter Egg Hunt
 - Jan gave an update on the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Egg stuffing get together will happen on March 31. The egg hunt will take place in the morning on April 4 at the recreation field at 10 AM. She has some Boy Scouts and others to assist but could use additional volunteer help.
- Lacrosse Update
 - So far 24 kids (total, boys & girls) have signed up. Bob has signed out the Calais gym from 3/23 – 5/1 so the teams have an indoor space to play in until the fields dry out. Boys will practice Tue/Thu, girls Mon/Wed. Boys games on Saturdays, girls on Sundays. Bob will run a K-2 program this May.
- Baseball update
 - Jason and Paul gave an update on baseball. Sign up numbers for Central Vermont Little League (CVLL) are currently about half of what they were last season. The sign-up deadline is March 15. After the deadline there is an additional \$10 fee and players are not guaranteed to be put on their home-town team. Volunteer coaches from last year have been reached out to in order to see who is interested in returning. Many will be coming back - coaches are set for Majors, Farm and T-ball. Working on Minors.
- Basketball update
 - Jack gave a quick wrap up on the season. Very successful for all teams. Good feedback from players and coaches.
- Shed Upgrades

- As the weather gets warmer, we should be able to start working on the interior of the new shed. This will include painting the floor to protect it, treating the windows, and building shelving to create storage space for lacrosse and soccer supplies. Bob and Kate are going to lead this project and initially work with someone with architecture/design skills to lay out a design plan that a group can work with to build out the storage space.
- Nomination process for next youth member
 - The term for our youth member, Owen, ends on May 31. The position was a pilot program this year and the board found it very successful.
 - Kate made a motion to make the youth member position on the East Montpelier Recreation Board permanent. Seconded by Bob. **Unanimously approved.**
 - Owen is going to work on recruiting candidates from the current group of East Montpelier students in the junior class at U-32 for the youth member position that will start on June 1.
- Discussion around expanding programming to others in community
 - Mike opened a broad, general discussion about whether the rec program might offer additional programming opportunities to others in the community. This was a general discussion about recreational activities for adults, youth programs like mountain biking and white-water canoeing, and how to find activities currently available in surrounding communities.
 - There was discussion about who might take on additional duties related to these activities if the board ever moved to add additional options, as many members already have a lot on their plates.
 - No action came from this discussion, but board members will continue to think about opportunities that might be worth discussing in the future.
- Recreation grant
 - Paul reminded the group that we should consider ordering the new bleachers soon, to start to use some of the recreation grant money we received for the items required by the award.

Meeting adjourned 8:31 PM

Next meeting to be held on April 13 at 7:15 PM, East Montpelier Elementary School.