

CHAPLIN RECREATION COMMISSION

Special Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2024

Chair Dave Stone called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Attendees: Shannon Hammond (Vice-Chair), Monica Arbo (Secretary), Amie Kraemer (Treasurer) and Danny Cates. Others present were Andrea Kaye, Bruce Spaman and Elizabeth Trosell.

2. Audience for Citizens:

New Chair Andrea Kaye and Bruce Spaman of the Hampton Rec and Activities Commission spoke about several parents interested in bringing back youth sports, are interested in what Chaplin is doing and coordinating with Chaplin for more opportunities in the future. The Commission welcomes working together with Hampton – would be very helpful (programs are offered to other towns).

3. Secretary's Report: Minutes from the December 4th and December 21st need to be posted.

4. Treasurer's Report:

General Fund – \$5,345.68

Special Revenue – \$15,344.55 as of 1/3/2024 (additional funds need to be deposited)

Dave Stone reported that paperwork has yet to be filled out for request to the Board of Finance for funds cut from the budget.

Motion to not pursue extra funds from the Board of Finance to cover deficiency in the FY 2023-24 budget (about \$1,200), made by Dave Stone, seconded by Monica Arbo and carried unanimously.

5. Disc Golf – Back 9, Tournaments, Leagues:

Elizabeth Trosell of the Disc Golf Glow League reported their sponsorship has expired and hopes to get back for this year. They would like to start the 1st week in April and will run every Friday with an average of about 8 people a week.

Motion to approve sponsorship for the Disc Golf Glow League for 2024, made by Monica Arbo, seconded by Amie Kraemer and carried unanimously.

Tournaments – would like to run 2 this year (Spring version in May, Fall version in September - note September 14 is Chaplin Day and September 21st is the Hampton Fall Festival). Need approval and use of the park for the day with maximum of 45 people, cash pay in/pay out, and will get sponsors from the town for help with food and prizes.

Back 9 – eagerly ready and excited to get started (needs to be approved first and then bring to the Board of Selectmen with as many of the team there as possible). Some small trees and branches would need to be removed (would need to be posted to give residents the opportunity to appeal the removal of any trees). This open and wooded course with a Back 9 would put Chaplin on the map and draw people to the park.

Motion to proceed with installation of Disc Golf Course of the Back 9, made by Dave Stone, seconded by Shannon Hammond and carried unanimously.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding sponsorship of Highland Festival:

The Highland Festival can't be held in Scotland anymore. The Committee Chair reached out to look at Garrison Park for a possible replacement to be held the Sunday before Columbus Day on October 13th (waiting to hear back). The 5-hour event averages about 2,500 people and would be similar to Chaplin Day including parking and opening the Concession Stand.

7. Basketball:

The Basketball program needs restructuring for next year (Dave suggested forming a D11 Subcommittee with Hampton Rec to run the program - Hampton is interested). Chaplin could use help with managing the program, scorekeeping, delegating, and better communication (sending out mass email).

Current Basketball Season – Discussed changing leagues due to concerns with hostility. An email was received from the Chaplin B coach with concerns about disregard to the rules and expectations of officials and the unprofessional conduct of League Administrator at a game in Columbia where a player was hurt. Amie Kraemer expressed safety concerns with only 1 ref (games could be forfeited without 2 refs). Monica Arbo suggested going to the ref organization to bring concerns to their attention (Dave will reach out to the coaches first to let them know the concerns have been heard - expect an email to go out to the players, and reach out to the Director of Columbia).

Basketball for the Littles – Jamie wants to run the Littles program.

Motion for Jamie to run the Littles Basketball Clinic for 4 weeks free of charge after the current season ends, made by Dave Stone, seconded by Shannon Hammond and carried unanimously.

8. **Soccer:** Soccer is going well and all paid up.

9. **Cornhole:**

Monica Arbo proposed the following prizes for Cornhole (needs to be approved). 3rd Place – gets their money back (\$120), 2nd Place – 1-1/2 of that (\$180), 1st Place – double the amount (\$240).

Motion to payout Cornhole prizes proposed by Monica Arbo, made by Dave Stone, seconded by Danny Cates and carried unanimously.

Dave Stone reported that a new heater is coming to the Senior Center Community Room to replace cracked heat exchanger. Propane heaters are on 55 degrees at all times. Starting this Monday, the cleaners will be here every Monday morning (need to leave the net to the side).

10. **Survey Results – New activities, Events, Sports:**

The survey results were received with Shuffleboard receiving the most interest. Other activities suggested include: Pickle Ball, Dog Park, Mountain Bike Trails, Bocce Ball and Table Pool. Dave Stone suggested doing an exploratory open night for Shuffleboard and Cornhole on Thursdays from 6-8pm to gauge interest. Option 1 – Tape the court (about \$20) – Monica noted the pucks do not slide easy over the tape, Option 2 – roll-out mat (about \$500-\$600), Option 3 – official court (about \$2,000), pucks and sticks (about \$200). Amie Kraemer suggested Linda Caron do Shuffleboard for a gym unit and share the equipment.

Motion to spend up to \$350 for Shuffleboard Equipment and Court, made by Dave Stone, seconded by Danny Cates and carried unanimously.

11. **Disc Golf – Back 9, Tournaments, Leagues:** Moved to Item #5 and move remainder of agenda down.

12. **Fishing Fun Day:**

Motion to table Fishing Fun Day due to lack of information, made by Monica Arbo, seconded by Shannon Hammond and carried unanimously.

13. **Tag Sale:**

Discussed doing an indoor Tag Sale in the Community Room in February or March (can't do at this time – Amie noted the school is doing a Tag Sale in the Spring instead of the Plant Sale).

14. **BMI account discussion (music licensing):**

Bill for \$440 a year for copyright licensing to play music is coming up on autopay (could play Spotify or Pandora with adds and cancel BMI – Amie will followup).

Motion to cancel BMI subscription, made by Danny Cates, seconded by Monica Arbo and carried unanimously.

15. Summer concert series and events:

No concerts booked to date. The Windham Concert Band is available for \$600 (will ask for July 12/13 or July 19/20 with 1st choice of Saturday).

Motion to contract with the Windham Concert Band for the Summer Concert Series on or around July 13th for \$600, made by Dave Stone, seconded by Shannon Hammond and carried unanimously.

16. Rec Commission website update: Amie will followup with Mike, the IT Tech.

17. Chaplin Day:

Discussed events for Chaplin Day including: Lawn Mower Races (Danny is working on), Bands (need to find and schedule), Axe Throwing (Amie reached out to company that brings trailer to parties that is completely fenced in (waiting to hear) - Monica asked if the insurance would cover setting up axe throwing themselves (Dave will check), Vendors (keep at \$25 for 20ft x 20ft plot with no charge for Chaplin residents or non-profits - need to reach out), Food Trucks (keep at \$100 – Monica suggested not restricting what they could sell - Danny would like them to stay for the whole day), bring a Fair under the tent to vote on and award ribbons for the best in each category (home baked goods, home grown veggies and flowers, and art projects for the kids – Monica will work on).

- ***Motion to charge \$25 per plot for Vendors for Chaplin Day, made by Dave Stone, seconded by Shannon Hammond and carried unanimously.***
- ***Motion to charge \$100 per Food Truck for Chaplin Day, made by Dave Stone, seconded by Danny Cates and carried unanimously.***

Fireworks were discussed at the 1st CIP meeting. The Board of Finance is not sure about funding available for July 1st (need to go to the Board of Selectmen – Danny suggested checking to see if the date is available and book it).

Motion to approve up to \$5,000 to book Fireworks for Chaplin Day, made by Monica Arbo, seconded by Shannon Hammond and carried unanimously.

18. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn (8:06 PM) made by Danny Cates, seconded by Amie Kraemer and carried unanimously.

***Respectfully submitted by
Kathleen Scott, Recording Clerk***