

Barkhamsted Recreation Commission Special Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2021

- The meeting was called to order at 6:28 PM. Commission members Peter Bakker Jr., Megan Nelson, Melissa Roy, Jon Sweeton and director Donna Carney-Bastrzycki were in attendance. Nora Bishop and Pam Wells were absent.
- There was no public input.
- The October minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Correspondence:

Halloween Sock Hop, Ski Club (correspondence with school), Holiday Lights and Christmas in Riverton.

Old Business:

Halloween Sock Hop:

- The Halloween sock hop was a success. There was positive feedback from students, parents and volunteers. There was a great quality of prizes and the treat bags were a big hit.
- There was a small hiccup/scheduling conflict with the DJ, however, the owner of the business was able to send a replacement. He did a great job - interacted well with the kids and played a good mix of music.
- 152 participants signed up but with parents and volunteers we probably had around 170 (record year was 2019 with 198 participants).
- It was mentioned that the location at peoples forest pavilion is a great set up. Next year we will try and get more lighting however it worked well with what we had (lights, flashlights and borders in place).
- Total profit was \$176.99

Pre-Thanksgiving Hike:

- Currently there are 8 people registered but we are expecting more.
- Commission members are being asked to help spread the word.
- The plan is to go up to the boardwalk which is about a 3.5 mile hike. We will have snacks at the end of the hike - location will be dependent on the weather.

Ski Club:

- We currently have 11 registered. We feel that is a good number with Covid and we meet the minimum bus requirements.
- Starts January 5th and lasts 5 weeks (snow dates may push out the date). Volunteers are still needed. Ideally we need 5 to 6 chaperones. Currently have 1, Jennifer Grant.
- The check to sundown will be mailed November 9th as the deadline is Friday, November 12. Will circle back in December's meeting.

New Business:

Holiday light Contest:

- Last year this event brought a lot of fun and excitement to the community when many had to stay home due to travel restrictions and strict covid protocols.
- It would be great if this event would continue. However, the commission already has 2 events that require a lot of work and time: Christmas in Riverton (holiday crafts) and Santa's visit. Melissa suggested asking the women's club to assist with the holiday lights event since breakfast with Santa is not scheduled again this year. Peter offered to bring this idea to them.
- If the women's club is unable to take the holiday lights on, we have a "plan b" to keep the mission of last year event: "Shine Bright Barkhamsted". This would be a virtual contest where anyone who wants to enter can post a picture in the town Barkhamsted page. The picture with the most likes will win a "cover picture" on the Barkhamsted's town page. Address can be added to the submitted picture if the contestant would like (optional).
- Peter will circle back with feedback from the womens club and that will determine what route we go.

Christmas in Riverton, Holiday Crafts & Santa's visit at the firehouse:

- Nora has been going to the Christmas in Riverton meetings and reserved a spot at the old Hitchcock "White House" building for the holiday craft event. The holiday craft event will take place from 12 PM to 2 PM.
- Santa at the firehouse event will take place from 2:30 to 3:45. We confirmed Jon Talarski will be Santa.
- Commission members offered to help stuff bags for the Santa event.

Discussed 2022 Meeting Dates:

- Third Monday of every month (aside from holiday months) is scheduled.

FYI - 12/19 could be a potential conflict with Hanukkah - TBD.

- Melissa motioned to approve the meeting dates and Peter seconded the motion. All accepted.

Megan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Melissa Roy seconded the motion. All accepted and the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Minutes were submitted by Megan Nelson