

Falls Village Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 10th, 2024 at 7:00 PM  
Falls Village Town Hall  
108 Main Street, Falls Village CT 06031

A meeting of the Falls Village Recreation Commission was held in person on this date and called to order at 7:04 pm by Ted Moy. **In attendance:** Dan Carr, Ted Moy, Dan Glass, Melissa Lopes (Commissioners), Emily Peterson (Director) David Barger & Judy Jacobs (Selectman) **Absent:** Lauren Killawee & Rachel Mills (Commissioners)

**Public Comment:**

Dave Barger told the commission that The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is now accepting proposals for the State's Recreational Trails Grant Program. CT DEEP will hold a webinar on January 11, 2024, to provide an overview of the CT Recreational Trails Grant program and application.

Both Dave Barger and Judy Jacobs told the commission that several ordinances would be sent to Town Meeting for approval. A draft of a Canine Ordinance presented at the last BOS meeting and may be of interest to the commission. Both also stated that many residents have mentioned a interest in having a park park at the recreation center.

Both Dave Barger and Judy Jacobs gave compliments on the Tree Lighting and holiday celebration.

**I. Old Business & Updates**

**A. Approval of pending minutes**

1. November 8th, 2023: MOTION by Dan Glass, seconded by Dan Carr to receive and approve the Meeting Minutes of November 8th, 2023, as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

**B. Review**

1. **Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Celebration Update:** Successful event. Thank you to the seniors from the Senior Center for wrapping presents for Santa to hand out. Santa arrived on the fire truck and everyone loved it. DM Hunt Library had an ornament making event the same day - those that wanted to could put the ornaments on the tree. Special thanks to our musicians - who provided live music. Things to improve next year - assign commission with specific tasks - hand out music & candles and "Plant" commissioner singers throughout the crowd to lead the singing with musicians. More information and guidance with luminaries.

2. **Kid Countdown to Noon Year's Eve Celebration with DM Hunt Library Update:** Partnered with DM Hunt Library. Balloon drop from the ceiling at noon. Snacks and dancing were had by all who attended. Fun and may have events like this in future years.

3. **Ski Club Update:** Four (4) Fridays at Mohawk starting on January 12th, 2023. There are 25 students involved with ski club, with nine (9) students needing scholarships. There are eight (8) chaperones to help with various things on the mountain and lodge. SWASA has given the FVRC with a grant to cover the cost of lessons, rentals and tickets. Parents have complained that there is no bussing this year. Melissa Lopes suggested that the commission find other grants to cover transportation or find other grants available in the winter that parents can apply for to cover some of the costs. Dan Carr stated that all kids, should have ski lessons regardless of their skill (maybe only

on the first date- good refresher) and also suggested that chaperones take lessons as well- then chaperones can be grouped with student skiers. Kudos to Dan Carr for organizing 2024 ski club.

## **II. New Business**

**A. Commission Chair Nomination:** MOTION by Dan Carr to nominate Ted Moy as Falls Village Recreation Chairperson for one year, seconded by Dan Glass. Motion passed unanimously. Melissa Lopes will send a letter of endorsement to the Board of Selectmen for appointment before the next meeting.

### **B. Group Breakouts (20 minutes)**

**1. Recruitment:** Dan Glass reviewed “Future of Recreation Center Survey”. Sent emails to those interested in learning more about the commission and upcoming projects and sent invitation to our February meeting.

**2. Co-Sponsor Guidelines:** Tabled to next meeting.

**3. Recreation Center:** Melissa Lopes will review and report community responses on “Future of Recreation Center Survey” to commission members for next meeting. Ted Moy and Emily Peterson will connect with residents to form a working group to help with planning.

**C. 2024 Planning:** Members discussed possible new and different 2024 community events- include adult events - Jaws movie night at pool, curling, train excursion, block party, fall festival. Brief discussion regarding pool staff and pool repairs and needs for the pool area. Discussion about bussing for CKC to get to pool.

### **D. Monthly Expense Report**

**1. Mid-Year Budget Update:** Commission reviewed expense/budget report from treasurer to determine areas of concern for the remaining anticipated expenses until June 2024.

**2. RecDesk:** In preparation for 2024-25 Expense/Budget request Emily Peterson discussed the need for RecDesk. (RecDesk Software allows members of the community to see what programs and activities are being offered by the Recreation Commission and to register for and pay for these activities online. Swim Lessons, CKC and other programs needing payment. This will stop late payments and chasing checks.

**III. Any other business to properly come before the Recreation Commission:** None

**IV. Adjournment:** There be no further business to discuss, MOTION by Dan Glass, seconded by Melissa Lopes to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14th, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melissa Lopes*

Melissa Lopes - Secretary