

Falls Village Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 13th, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Falls Village Town Hall and via Zoom
108 Main Street, Falls Village CT 06031

Present - in Person:

Members: Ted Moy, Dan Carr, Dan Glass, Melissa Lopes, Rachel Mills

Director: Emily Peterson

Guests: Nikki Blass, Kristi Spear, First Selectman Dave Barger

Present - via Zoom:

Selectman - Chris Kinsella

Absent:

Member: Lauren Killawee

I. Call to order: Ted Moy called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

II. Public Comment: None

III. Old Business & Updates

A. Approval of received minutes

1. February 14th, 2024: MOTION by Ted Moy, seconded by Dan Glass to approve received Minutes of February 14th, 2024 Meeting, as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Review

1. CT DEEP - Connecticut Recreational Trails Funding Grant Update: Dave Barger forwarded NWCOG contact information to Ted Moy, Emily Peterson and Melissa Lopes. Ted Moy contacted Rista Malanca at NWCOG. After speaking with Ms. Malanca, Ted reported to FVRC members about the the position we're in with regard to applying for this grant. In summary, the grant writing process will take more time than we can dedicate to the process (40+ hrs for a team with locked down info). We would need to score a high score before our application would even be reviewed, so ensuring we score well is step one. The figures we have for the "current plans" are outdated and wouldn't serve us in the grant application. Our best path forward would be to invest time in locking down high scores in the grading, ensure lots of community support, potentially find ways to connect our project with the ct trail system or a similar pathway, update our cost figures and plan for next years grant opportunity.

IV. New Business

A. Events

1. Easter Egg Hunt

a) Program Details: Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 23rd at 10 am at the Falls Village Recreation Center (108 Route 63) Rain date March 30th. FV seniors will be helping again to fill easter eggs with candy. LHK 8th graders will be setting up a table to sell baked goods for their school trip and hiding the easter eggs between the picnic tables and the playground. Easter bunny will make a surprise visit for pictures.

b) Commission Assignments: Commissioners will be assigned to starting line-ups for groups of younger and older children.

2. Recreation Center Open House / Property Walk

a) Program Details: Following the Easter egg hunt, there will be a tour of the recreation center with a focus on the clear space past the pool and playground area to show the area that is available and possible ideas. Emily Peterson will send the information to the Lakeville Journal.

b) Commission Assignments: Emily Peterson will make maps to hand out to those in attendance.

B. Summer Programming

1. Waterfront Supervisor: Nikki Blass attended the meeting to confirm her interest in being the 2024 waterfront supervisor. She was asked to provide possible improvements for programming for 2024 season. Both Nikki Blass and Emily Peterson will be work to finalize the draft of standard operating procedures to be ready for all lifeguards to review and sign at the start of the 2024 pool season.

2. Creative Kidz Club – Youth Program Director: Kristi Spear attended the meeting to confirm her interest in being the 2024 Youth Program Director. She was asked to provide possible improvements for programming for 2024 season. Emily Peterson is meeting with the Church to discuss programing and getting confirmation of use for 2024 season.

Motion by Melissa Lopes, seconded by Rachel Mills to recommend the rehire of Nikki Blass as 2024 Waterfront Supervisor and the rehire of Kristi Spear as 2024 CKC Youth Program Director. Motion passed unanimously. Ted Moy will send a letter of endorsement to the Board of Selectmen for appointment before the next meeting.

C. Solar Committee: The first Solar Committee Meeting was held March 13th, 2024. The next meeting will be heald March 27th.

D. Funds / Budget

1. CDC - leftover funds: Left over funds (\$1629.96) from the FV Development Corp: Ted Moy reminded members that there were funds left over with the FV Development Corp, As a reminder, these are funds used to build the pergola and plant some trees at the recreation center during 2021 Unfortunately the planted trees did not survive. These funds are allocated for use on the recreation center property. Melissa suggested that funds be used to create more shade, which is bably needed, but a final decision has not yet been made. Both Ted Moy and Emily Peterson will follow up on how to request the money, once a decision has been made on what the funds will be used for.

2. Hometown Grants: Both Ted Moy and Emily Peterson received contact regarding a grant opportunity for the recreation center property. It was discussed but at the current time, we are not ready to write any grant proposals. Commission will look into this further.

V. Any other business to properly come before the Recreation Commission:

- A. Both Ted Moy and Emily Peterson were contacted to find out what the FVRC was doing for Earth Day (April 22nd). Ted Moy was contacted by the Village Gardeners & Emily Peterson was included on an email from DM Hunt. Emily Peterson reported that LHK has an educational event at the school. Rachel Mills will contact Meg Sher at DM Hunt Library. FVRC will work on organizing a town clean-up. Melissa Lopes will reach out to HOUSY to determine who is in charge of the Local Enironmental Action Group and pass that information on to Rachel Mills so that information can be sent from one person on the FVRC. More details to follow.

VI. Adjournment: MOTION to Adjourn made by Dan Carr, seconded by Dan Glass. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10th, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Lopes

Melissa Lopes - Secretary