**Lafayette Recreation Committee**

**December 7, 2017 – Meeting Minutes**

Attending: Committee members Matt Koehler, Adam Boyer, John Hynes, Launa Glover, Meghan McPhaul, Haley Ireland, Cindy Berlack; Rec Director Kim Cowles, Youth Director Kris Kappler

Absent: Gordie Johnk (at a fire call)

Meeting called to order at 5:37 p.m.

Matt welcomed Cindy Berlack to her first meeting as a committee member.

Committee voted to **approve minutes** from Nov. 2 meeting.

**Review of background check policy**

There has been some confusion over whether volunteer coaches employed in jobs that require background checks (e.g. teaching at a public school) are required to go through the criminal background checks required by Rec. Committee policy. Kris said her understanding is that ALL volunteer coaches must complete the state background check. She has been working under the premise that volunteer coaches do not need to complete another background check as long as they have coached/volunteered within the past year. Kris said if a volunteer coach can provide written evidence of a completed (and positive) background check, perhaps we can waive the requirement, but she needs to have a paper trail. After discussion, committee members agreed to draft more specific wording to add to the existing policy to make the requirement more clear. Meghan will draft an addendum to the policy and email to committee members for review prior to the January meeting.

**Friends of Profile Trails report**

Meghan and Kim reported on an informational meeting held at Town Hall last month regarding efforts to create a trails master plan for the Franconia area and surrounding communities. The effort is being spearheaded by a group called Friends of Profile Trails, which includes Charlie Wolcott, Sandy Olney (ASPNC), Rebecca Brown (ACT), Angela Figallo McShane (PE teacher at Profile), and Chris Nicodemus. Kim has also been attending meetings. The group has enlisted trail builder John Morton of Vermont-based Morton Trails to assist in drafting the trails master plan. The general idea is to create a more comprehensive trails system connecting existing recreational trails, town centers, and other community assets. Kim asked if the Committee would give its support to the effort. Committee members agreed to endorse the general concept and to review and support grant applications related to the project if needed.

**Pavilion update**

Kim said the Mosedales are working on fundraising; no update from Andrea and Thad at this point. Kim is hoping to break ground on the project the Monday after Old Home Day.

**Wobble-N-Gobble**

Kim reported about 425 people participated. Weather was good. Report has been sent to committee members. Lafayette Rec splits the proceeds with ASPNH, and each raised $5,320.69.

**Coaches meeting**

Too many scheduling conflicts for coaches to attend. Kris will email a reminder to coaches to review coaching information on the Rec. Committee website.

**Triathlon**

Kim has been volunteering time on this event for 25 years and is ready (along with her family) to transition the triathlon to someone else. She is willing to do lots of the work, but would like to pass some of it along to other volunteers. She’d like help, especially, garnering more sponsors, maybe some raffle items, and additional sponsors. Even without putting lots of effort into sponsorships and promotion, the triathlon still attracts 350-400 participants each year. Kim thinks 500 is max number of participants to keep event successful.

Meghan suggests developing a triathlon committee to help organize. Matt asks if the group that orchestrates White Mountain Triathlon in June (Millennium Racing, out of Manchester) would be willing to partner. Kim said she has talked with the guy who runs that race; the potential downfall is that the feel of the event would change, and Lafayette Rec would have to share proceeds. Generally the net profit is about $10,000-$11,000 (last year $7,500 to pavilion, Life Squad got $2000, and keep $1,000 in the account each year). Adam suggests trying for one year with a committee and if that doesn’t work, looking into handing off Millennium Racing.

Matt, Meghan, Kim will be committee to start. Meghan will work to schedule a meeting after Christmas.

**Budget**

Kim went to the Easton BOS with John and the Sugar Hill BOS with Launa to do a third quarter review, and both meetings went well. Will meet with Franconia BOS on the budget next week. Three towns’ BOS will meet later this month to discuss budgets. Public meeting for budgets is in early February

Discussion included:

Fieldtrips line has increased significantly – Kim explained this is because the process of paying for these has changed, although the actual cost has not increased. It’s a change in how the expense and income lines appear in the budget, but the income directly offsets the expense.

For FY2017, we will come close to what we’ve budgeted for the year.

Kim suggests approving draft budget leaving out wage increases until town determines COL increase and omitting Taxes & Benefits lines until those are completed by the town.

Motion made and accepted to approve the draft budget as presented, omitting Salaries & Wages and Taxes & Benefits lines until we have further information on those. Unanimously passed.

**Rink update**

Kim reported that boards were installed, but a powerful gust of wind came through the other day and knocked them down. Pete Guadette will help put them up again and anchor better. Boards are all galvanized steel and should last for many years. May need to replace the kick plate and the cap plate in the near future.

**Longest Night, Santa, Caroling**

On Dec. 21 Bancroft House will again host their Longest Night event on the Dow. The same afternoon, Santa will be at the library from 4-4:30 p.m., then head to the Route 116/Church Street bridge and carol through town to the Lafayette Center. All are welcome to join. Kim is open to suggestions for activities between the bridge and Lafayette Center. Launa will see if Garnet Hill will organize something (maybe cocoa?).

**Basketball**

Kris reported basketball season is underway and going well. Kindergarten will begin practice in January (coaches Molly McLean and Tandy Girourd). First/second started this week (coaches Peter Gignac and Garrett Ferguson). Brent Johnson, Jeff Kauffman, Amy Venezia are coaching 3rd/4th, with first game next Monday. There is a 5/6 grade girls team (coaches Matt and Shelley Koehler, Nicole Fitzpatrick) and a 5/6 boys team (Tim Clough and Mike McKeever), with first game for the boys next week. Both 5/6 teams are interested in attending potential Littleton tourney.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.**

**Next meeting January 4 at 5:30 p.m.**

Minutes submitted by Meghan McPhaul, December 7, 2017