

St George Recreation Department
Meeting Minutes
October 8th 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm.

Absent: Craig Gauthier

Agenda changes: Little League Reps will be attending for a discussion about the status of the league and any changes taking place this year.

Public Comment: Meredith from the Island Institute attended the meeting as a way to introduce herself. She is here for the next two years and looks forward to helping out and getting to know the community.

Old Business:

- 1) Seniors trip to Common Ground fair had 27 seniors total and 12 from St George. It was very successful – they went on a Friday and there were a lot of other buses there. There were 42 at the September Senior Luncheon and the October luncheon will feature a presentation from the school and the fire department. Missy wondered about student involvement and Jaime said that there is a possibility for the 4th grade to get involved – maybe some sort of table decorations or centerpieces. Ben said that he has reached out to the school to make sure that they knew that they were always welcomed to help but the scheduling has been difficult to coordinate. Jaime will talk to the other staff members at the staff meeting on Thursday. Senior shopping trip is scheduled for November 10th to Portland.
- 2) LL discussion agenda item moved up to accommodate the Oceanside LL reps that agreed to come– thanks to Jesse Butler and Davin Putansu for joining us to discuss the latest news from Oceanside Little League. OLL is currently contemplating a new team structure that would have 9/10-year-olds on one team and 11/12 year olds on another team. This will ensure that younger players get more of a chance on the field and will make the older bracket more competitive. The participation is at an all-time low and they are working to improve participation and ensure quality of play. St George and Vinalhaven are in the same situation with age and enrollment. Jesse expressed a willingness to cooperate with St George in order to make the program work for us. He discussed an option on the registration where families could indicate that their child is only eligible to be drafted to teams that play in a specific zip code or a certain mileage from their home. There is a big difference between softball and baseball enrollment and it is getting worse. Softball numbers are in trouble in all towns - not only St George. The league will keep us updated as to their decision about the 9/10 and 11/12 split and we can go from there. As it stands, St. George would like to keep their town-sponsored 'Dragons' and are interested in the option on the registration form for local eligibility.

- 3) Financial report – we will be returning money back into the general budget for the dugout repair that was largely donated. The Rec Department is only responsible for materials which was approximately \$300.
- 4) Youth Soccer- K Clinics are good for about 30 minutes before kids begin to lose interest. K-2 soccer can be very difficult to manage and some kids are too young to understand game concepts. Parents might need a reminder about what the primary developmental goals are for youth soccer – and that it is okay if your child just isn't in the mood and needs to skip a day or take a time out. Both 3/4th and 5/6th soccer are going well. The co-ed aspect to the 5/6 team has been a positive thing. It sets the tone since these kids will go on to play co-ed soccer in 7-8th grade as well.
- 5) Facilities – dunk tank – Ben called the company that is selling the dunk tank but he was unable to get the age of the unit. He was told that there are no defects. Gary has agreed to take care of negotiations for this potential purchase. The big ball field is almost ready to be winterized. Jake Ward and Eric Systma have volunteered to help take the chain link fence down so that the back of the dugout can be painted. Tennis courts will be closed Oct 23rd. Portable toilets will be gone soon. An extra portable toilet (handicapped) should be considered at Drift-Inn during the months of July and August.

New Business

- 1) Roni Stuart is a definite for youth basketball – all previous coaches have been asked but haven't gotten back to Ben. 4/5th boys enrollment is down.
- 2) 17/18 Goals- the Committee agreed to the following goals for 2017/2018:
 - a) To expand Adult Recreation offerings (Missy motion, Brandon second).
 - b) To improve concessions sales at sporting events (Gary motion, Missy second).
 - c) To increase the 5k participation – setting a goal of 100 participants for the 2018 race (Cassie motion, Brandon second)..
 - d) To purchase a piece of equipment for Collins Park (Gary motion, Missy second).

We discussed changing the format of the summer clinics but do not need to set it as a goal. We will revisit this idea as many kids who do vote to decide the summer clinic offerings often do not even participate in the actual clinics. Any additional goals can be discussed at the next meeting and added to the list.

- 3) Adult Rec nights are starting on Oct 23rd- Volleyball on Monday nights, Pickleball on Wednesday nights, and Basketball on Thursday nights.
- 4) Bowdoin trip is set and 8 are signed up. Mike Felton will be the trip leader since he is an alum and has many connections at the college.
- 5) Other Business: November 13th is the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.