

**Orford Parks and Playgrounds
Minutes of the Meeting
Orford Town Offices
January 18th, 2023
7:00**

Present: JJ Hebb, Lawrence Hibbard, Robb Day and Kate Lester (Orford Swim Program Coordinator).

JJ opened the meeting with Kate giving the Committee and overview of the swim program for summer 2022. This summer was very busy with 91 total students. There was a record number of tuition students from surrounding towns. Kate suggested that the tuition rate of \$50 for the first family member and \$25 for each additional child should be increased in future years as this rate has been the same for as long as she can remember. JJ suggested \$50 for the first two family members and \$25 for each additional. Kate was agreeable to this. Kate also suggested that if attendance remains high, they will need to hire additional swim aides. She also suggested giving the aides as well as the instructor raises as the current rate is very low. Some new equipment such as life jackets will be needed but can be purchased using budgeted funds. The 2023 season will be from July 24th to August 11th. JJ suggested that students should register sooner, such as April break, to get a better idea of numbers.

Kate was also the beach monitor this season and JJ felt that the Town needed more of a presence at the beach with more hours. She asked Kate if she would like to continue or should the Committee ask around for a new monitor. Kate felt that she would like to continue and if additional hours are needed, there could be another monitor as well. There were many reports of unauthorized users of the Beach when the monitor was not on duty. The Committee will look into this.

JJ motioned to approved the October 2022 minutes as read, Lawrence seconded and all were in favor.

The only property use forms that have been passed in for this year are for the bandstand concerts. They have been approved with the stipulation that trash cans are to be removed after every concert along with the usual requests such as no parking on the mall walk and no alcohol. Robb suggested that when/if the markets are held this year, signs should be removed after every market. Last summer there were signs left from week to week that were a nuisance to mow around.

JJ discussed the weighted cones to be purchased to close the entrance to the Community Field in the off season. These were specialty cones with loops on top to run a cable or rope through. Since these cones have multiple uses, it was agreed to order 5 cones for a total of \$250.

JJ presented to the group mock ups of new signs for the Community Field. One to replace the Community Field sign and one to be placed in memory of Bob Thatcher for all his years of service to the School (Orford High School and Rivendell Academy) A Community Field sign was chosen and it was agreed that the sign for Bob Thatcher still needed some alterations before it is ordered.

Lawrence let the group know that 15 new flags are needed for the flags that are placed on the telephone poles along Route 10 and 25a. We have enough poles.

It was agreed that Robb will contact Scott Woodward to look over the structural repairs needed for the bandstand. It was suggested that most, if not all, of the support timbers under the deck will need to be replaced due to rot.

There are a number of trees along the mall walk that will need attention. It was agreed to work on that soon.

Lawrence suggested that a load of stay pack be delivered to the Indian Pond Beach parking area to fill in a low spot. Lawrence will look into this in May.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Minutes taken by Robb Day.