



TOWN OF SHARON

MEETING NOTICE

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 39
SECTION 23A AS AMENDED.

Town Clerk

Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
Sharon Community Center
Thursday, December 20, 2018

Present: Gary Bluestein, Steve Lesco, Cheryl Whiting, Ro Desai, Judy Crosby, Tim Richmond, Larry Yaffe, Susan
Staff: Linda Berger, Jon Lewitus, Maura Palm

Call to Order – Gary called meeting to order at 6:37pm

Approval of November minutes: Cheryl Whiting/Steve Lesco: All in favor; zero opposed; Judy Crosby abstained as not in attendance

Director's Report: Linda stated that basketball is going well and Jon is doing a great job. Grades 3-8 the numbers are down; high school has large participation; junior girls is a challenge – if they don't show up it is not good for other members of the team. Ro stated that Dave Clifton is wonderful in the programs he is in charge of.

Winter program registration is up and running.

SYBSA: Larry Yaffe came in to discuss opening events for the spring 2019-it starts with the annual carnival for opening weekend which is a large community event. Set-up starts prior Monday with state & town inspections occurring before they can open. Gary questioned parking. Larry stated they hire parking attendants as well as a police detail. There have been no significant issues in the past. Larry apologized for oversight in not conveying to the Committee intentions on running events on recreation property.

Recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to hold carnival: Steve Lesco/Ro Desai; all in favor; zero opposed.

Max Performance: Tim Richmond came in to discuss Triathlon for August 11, 2019 which will be the 10th year. The event went well last summer. Weather conditions could have been a problem, but turned out to clear right before event. Attendance was down a bit from 2017. Would like to ask the Board of Selectmen to discuss possibility of having a beer garden for participants only. Gary suggested for Tim to send Linda a proposal to look over what he offers on other town property and DCR lands. Discussion surrounding course change to make it more of a straight out and back, which is easier on the swimmers. The race starts at 8am and usually ends by noon. Recommendation to allow a trial year and see how things go. Committee agreeable to give the Board of Selectmen proposal. Motion to the Board of Selectmen to hold the Triathlon on August 11, 2019 with changes in the proposed course route: Steve Lesco/Ro Desai; All in favor; zero opposed.

Gary Werden: Much discussion on possible purchase of new boats. The boats that are presently used are not ideal to teach sailing lessons. Sunfish are cheaper to buy and can teach sailing lessons with them but he believes there is a better teaching option. The department has 2 bins to house boats. The high school owns

their own boats. Gary suggested a better option would cost approx. \$4,200 per boat and would be able to put 3 kids in a boat w/instructor – would need 8 boats at a cost of upwards to \$36,000.00. Linda stated she wanted to work with Fred to utilize revolving funds to purchase. Much concern about cost of boats. Gary stated would be better to purchase the boats all at once. We currently have 12 sunfish. Gary requested Linda to get a full read of cost and where the money would come from.

Motion for recommendation for Linda to get information back to the committee: Ro Desai/Chery Whiting; All in favor; zero opposed.

Director's Report: Linda stated Rock Slide for older children was installed at Ames Street Playground.

Discussion on cost of pavilion/install - \$32,000.00 for the structure/\$37,000.00 to install. Much discussion on Ruth Freeman's fundraising efforts. Committee would like to bring Ruth back in to talk about this. Linda stated she would have a meeting with she and Ruth.

Met with Fred/DPW to discuss the Recreation Departments needs from the DPW. Stated it was a productive meeting.

For the coming year will close down the gate at Gunhouse Street. Also discussed possibility of playground at the Memorial Park Beach. Would need fencing and costs to do so.

Trudy Sullivan memorial donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 to go towards Square Jam.

Thank you to Steve Lesco: After serving on the committee for 18 years tonight will be Steve's last meeting. We thank him for his tireless efforts throughout the years.

Old Business: Judy Crosby stated that the girls will be having an engineering class at the Middle School

Other Business: None

Meeting Adjourned: 8:26PM – Steve Lesco/Cheryl Whiting-All in favor; zero opposed

Next Meeting: January 17, 2019