

**MINUTES**  
**RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**TOWN OF COVENTRY**  
**SUNDAY APRIL 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.**

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**Board Members Present:**

Martha Sylvester/Chair; Carol Simmons, Heather Sylvester, Amber Lucas, Kate Fletcher

**Guests:** Colleen Moore De Ortiz, Daniel

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- 1. Martha Sylvester called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.**
- 2. Approve the minutes of the March 23, 2018 meeting**
  - Kate Fletcher made the motion to approve the corrected minutes of the March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Carol Simmons.
  - Minutes of the March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 meeting approved and signed as written.
- 3. Allow for Public Comment**
  - No public comment.
- 4. Discussion with Vermont Department of Health.**
  - Discussion delayed until the arrival of Colleen Moore De Ortiz
- 5. Open Recreation Update**
  - Martha informed the committee there has been no change in open rec as the VLCT is getting a solid background check together. The committee will discuss further and decide whether or not to have fingerprints and Amanda will look into the costs.
- 6. Bingo**
  - The Coventry Select Board has requested a more comprehensive outline of what the bingo plan will be and the associated costs.
  - The Coventry Parent's Club will run the concession stand and food money will stay with CPC.
  - Further discussion is tabled until July when the recreation budget is discussed by the Select Board.

## **7. Newport Centennial Parade**

- There is no cost for Coventry to have a float.
- The committee decided a float is a good idea but would be a tremendous amount of work, realistically requiring more people to build.
- There is a Centennial Parade Planning meeting in Newport on April 26, 2018 from 5-7pm at the Municipal Building.
- Decision to participate is tabled until the next meeting.

## **8. Coventry Day**

- Martha announced there will be some small changes this year. She obtained a quote for the tables, chairs, tents (four), and the bouncy house all for \$2000, including set-up and take-down. They are insured.
- Donna Bousquet is not available for face painting this year because of knee placement surgery. She will try to recommend a substitute and Kate will contact Natalie Guillette, the NCUHS art teacher for interested students or suggestions.
- Leo Piette, owner of Ray's Market, will do the sides and salads as he provided last year.
- The baking contest last year was a success and Kate will have Majestic Trophy provide the medals/awards.
- Chris Doncaster, and his band, has been booked to provide the live music.
- Paper plates, cups, napkins, soda and water will be ordered from Vista in Newport.
- Kate will contact Mark & Heather Gray (Coventry residents) about providing the maple products. If they are not interested the committee will contract with Jed's Maple.
- Casella/Waste USA will be asked to have a display table and composters to raffle.
- Fireworks have already been booked and paid for.
- All vendors will need a certificate of insurance.
- Martha is planning a Coventry Day organizational meeting in the future.

## **9. Green Up Day**

- Green Up Day is Saturday, May 5, 2018. Martha had posters to display and informational sheets on the event. She will be at the Community Center from 8am on to oversee and answer questions.
- Green Up Day trash bags will be delivered soon and made available.

## **10. Vermont Neighbor Day, Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**

- Martha discussed VT Neighbor Day, established two years ago by Patrick Leahy, as a day to meet and greet your town neighbors. Having a pot-luck at the Community Center was discussed and the Rec Committee would provide drinks and advertise.
- The Committee thought a pie social, or dessert and coffee social might be a better idea.

- Motion to plan a Neighbor Day coffee and dessert social was made by Carol Simmons. Martha Sylvester seconded. Kate Fletcher mentioned it was a very busy time of year and the newly formed committee has a long to-do list with Coventry Day around the corner. Item tabled until the next meeting.

**11. Vermont Department of Health**

- Colleen Moore De Ortiz, RN of the Chronic Disease Prevention portion of the VDH discussed recreational events and opportunities for physical activities and nutritious foods.
- Brighton Rec Committee was mentioned as well as the grant possibilities from the Robert Wood-Johnson Foundation. Brighton holds many activities such as basketball tournaments/camps, soccer, a 5K run, and swimming lessons.
- Julie Raboin will help our Committee write a job description for Chair/Director.
- A suggestion was made to look into having a summer program/camp offerings in Coventry, as Newport Dept. of Parks & Recreation has a summer program.
- Colleen will assist our committee in any way she can and we will add her to our email list.

**12. Other Business**

- Members expressed the desire to hold committee meetings on a week day as opposed to Sunday evenings. Conflicts with other meetings, such as the Select Board, Town Foundation, Planning Commission, School Board, etc. will be considered.

**13. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.**

**The next Recreational Committee meeting will be held on Monday May 14th, 2018 at p.m.**

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**Martha Sylvester / Chair**

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**Kelly Collins**

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**Kate Fletcher**

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**Amber Lucas**

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**Carol Simmons**

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**Heather Sylvester**