

**RECREATION & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMISSION**  
**[REGULAR MEETING]**  
**7:30 PM – January 24, 2013**  
**Hampton Community Center**

**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER 7:35**

**ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS**

In attendance: Davis, Wagner, G. Hansen, A. Hansen, Burchfield, Arriola, Yanouzas, Crawford, and Kelley

Absent: LaFontaine

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS** – Brandy Crawford, Lois Kelley

**AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS**

1. Kathi Newcombe addressed concerns over erroneous postings of Rec meeting, Rec's method of setting the year's meeting dates, and the Gazette's request to take over the Memorial day BBQ
2. Laura Petix spoke in praise of "Hampton's Got Talent."

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 11.8 2012**

Motion by Troy to accept as written, seconded by Gay Wagner

Discussion and edits

Item 4 under Audience for Citizens: item in parentheses to read "Answer: Kathi's existence on list verified"

Item 1 under Approval of Minutes, strike "objecting to practice of repositioning agenda items" as not part of action on the motion to approve.

Motion amended by Troy to read "approved as amended."

VOTE: 2 abstentions (Crawford and Kelley, new members, not present at prior meeting), remaining present aye

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

2 spreadsheets distributed: one a list of checks and deposits, one a summary of income and expenses by program. Several errors were found. Gay will correct and email the corrected report to members.

Mark reported that the bank balance as of January 24 is \$9312.61. It includes funds allocated but not yet spent for locking storage cabinets and a digital projector, as well as town and community funds raised in the first half of the fiscal year to support events planned for the second half of the year.

Gordon asked that we refer to the Christmas play as "A Christmas Carol," its proper name, and noted that "Scrooge" is a newer and different play.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Letter from Republican Town Committee declining to have their events and fundraiser publicized via the community email list.
2. Letter from Playscape Committee, thanking the Rec Commission for their \$5000

- donation to the project
3. Request from BOFinance for Mark and Gay to appear at their February meeting to discuss Rec's financial practices and controls. The Board of Finance is meeting with all town departments and agencies for such reviews.
  4. Email from Town Clerk Leslie Wertam (attached) recapping the confusion over an erroneous web posting concerning the Rec meeting and citing evidence of state statute and town procedure why the meeting is not illegal and should be held.

### **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

#### Under Old Business

1. Update from Playscape project,
2. Recap of "Hampton's Got Talent,"

#### Under New Business

1. Discussion of a chainsaw-sharpening workshop, proposed by a resident
2. Proposal to change banks to a more conveniently located one

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Playscape update – the project has made its \$30,000 goal due to some large year-end gifts. The equipment has been purchased and is stored in the old town garage. Plans are developing for a volunteer-staffed community wide "barn raising" type installation event for Mother's Day weekend.
2. "Hampton's Got Talent!" recap – The show featured 6 acts and the hall was packed! First place Sarah McDermott (original ballet solo) and second place India Arriola (narration) Chair to issue checks to winners. T-shirts to be created and given to all participants per previous subcommittee action.
3. Discuss and take **action on** Memorial Day BBQ  
MOTION by Troy, seconded by Gay, to grant the Gazette the Memorial Day BBQ as a fundraiser. Discussion followed.  
MOTION by Ed, seconded by Gay To table item indefinitely<sup>1</sup> and discuss at the Feb. 7 budget planning meeting. VOTE: all aye except Juan no, Troy abstains.  
Historical financial data will be collected to be presented at the Feb. 7 meeting.
4. Discuss and take action on allocation for new chicken cooking frames.  
MOTION by Gay, seconded by Gordon to allocate project funds not to exceed \$1000 to design and spec the new frames, essential as the old ones are beyond repair. Discussion followed. Gay amended her motion to include creation of an ad hoc committee for the project to be made up of Juan, Ed, and Dan Meade.  
VOTE: all aye except Ed and Juan abstain.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Set calendar for 2013. 4th Thurs. dates are Jan 24, Mar. 28, May 23, July 25, Sept. 26, Nov. 21. Set special meeting for budget and town subsidy request before mid-February.

---

<sup>1</sup> In Roberts Rules this term means the matter can be taken up at any time, any meeting. "Tabled" is a more restrictive designation.

Convenience of 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays reconfirmed. Dates accepted. Special budget development meeting set for Feb. 7. Event planning sheets distributed, and form will also be emailed to members to be printed out if more forms are needed.

2. Piano loan, property of Juniper Hill Jumpers, to reside at the Community Center. MOTION by Gordon to allocate up to \$250 for action repairs that the piano needs (The Juniper Hill Jumpers are assuming responsibility for piano tuning costs.) Rec events and concerts may use the piano at any time.

VOTE: ALL AYE, Ed and Juan abstain

3. Discuss and take action on a family ice skating session at UConn rink. Brandy and Lois will look into feasibility and community interest. May include roller-skating outings as well. Discussion of importance of reaching out to children in private schools and home schooled, as well as public school students. Discussion of accepting participants from neighboring towns. The committee will research all and bring recommendations to the Feb. 7 program/budget meeting.

4. Begin discussion of Rec programs for FY2013-14, budget request to submit to BOFinance. Distribute event planning sheets, to be completed and brought to budget planning meeting

Mark discussed a new direction for next year's Little River Music Series, to feature more local talent, as a way of building audience and enthusiasm. Troy complimented the high quality of previous years' bands and would like to see this continued also. Juan expressed interest in recruiting some Latin jazz musicians, and holding 'open mike' jam sessions.

5. Chain saw workshop, suggested by a resident. Discussion of types of equipment, features (sharpening, safety, technique). Subcommittee created of Mark, Brandy, and Lois to develop parameters and investigate timing and location.

6. Change banks for Rec accounts. Mark proposed changing to a more conveniently located bank, and proposed Savings Institute (Willimantic and branches in neighboring towns). MOTION by Angelika, seconded by Mark, to move the Rec Commissions banking accounts from Putnam Bank in Pomfret to Savings Institute in Willimantic.

#### **AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

From: Town Clerk/Town of Hampton <townclerk@hamptonct.org>  
To: Admin Asst/Town of Hampton <adminasst@hamptonct.org>, Gay Wagner  
<gwagner1@mindspring.com>, First Selectman/Town of Hampton  
<firstselectman@hamptonct.org>  
CC: Kathi Newcombe <knewcombe@charter.net>, "Hennick, Thomas A"  
<Thomas.Hennick@ct.gov>  
Date: Thu, 24 Jan 2013 16:11:39 -0500  
Subject: RE: Rec Commission  
Thread-Topic: Rec Commission  
Thread-Index:  
Ac36Tcbm3i9Wl1cNRm6NBZwpxauZyQAAk42wAAAnsHAACF9TgA==  
Accept-Language: en-US  
acceptlanguage: en-US  
X-ELNK-Received-Info: spv=0;  
X-ELNK-AV: 0  
X-ELNK-Info: sbv=0; sbrc=.0; sbf=bb; sbw=000;

I spoke with Tom Hennick at FOI a few minutes ago and he added a few thought to those in the email response below. I suggested that given that this is a regular meeting - the agenda for which does not even have to be posted to the website - and given the website is the only place where the erroneous cancellation appeared, and given that the agenda was properly attached and NOT labeled "CANCELLED" as is past practice that the commission go ahead and meet. If someone chose to object to any action taken because of the error, then the commission could redo the action at their next regular or a special meeting. Perhaps if there is an agenda item that might be of particular concern to someone, the chair might contact that person directly. Mr. Hennick felt it was an acceptable way to proceed. He also stated that the FOI statutes to not speak to cancellation of meetings and therefore there is no FOI violation in this situation.

I did not notice the cancellation statement. Indeed, it is unclear to me how it could have appeared - the joys of technology at work.

Leslie