

Town of Kensington
Kensington Recreation and Social Committee (KRSC)
December 7, 2023
Public Meeting, Town Hall
5:30 pm

Attending:

Lili Spinosa, KRSC Member
Donna Carter, KRSC Member
Sarah Turcott, KRSC Member
Jessica Minghella, KRSC Member
Stephanie Kosakowski, Kensington Summer Camp Coordinator/ Director

Meeting opened at 5:34 pm.

Minutes from previous meeting accepted.

Summer Camp 2024: Stephanie attended this meeting as returning Summer Camp Coordinator/ Director, to discuss her plans for 2024 Summer Camp with a review of the themed weeks. Stephanie discussed the potential to extend regular day pick-up time by 1 hour to 3:15pm (previously it was 2:15pm). She will send out a poll to 2023 camp families to gauge if this pick-up time extension would be beneficial/ desired.

Review of Summer Camp 2023 staff hours; majority of staff provided feedback that they would prefer more hours than were allotted in 2023. There were 16 staff members in 2023, Stephanie suggested hiring only 10 for 2024.

Stephanie requested KRSC members to obtain from the Park Trust a detailed listing of what is/ what is not allowed at park. This listing will help reduce the amount of communication required during the 2023 summer camp, to ensure the camp staff adhere to the Trust's requirements.

Discussion was held for ideas to improve camp morale: providing weekly camp shirts, pizza on Fridays, planning again for the Whippoorwill Dairy Farm truck, hosting community days for the Middle School campers (to focus on tasks around town). Also discussed the weekly trips to Kingston State Park, which would require campers be dropped off and picked up at State Park (estimates from busing companies were reviewed and determined to be not feasible). Stephanie reviewed the poll responses from 2023 camp families, majority of which seemed interested and capable of driving campers to and from this location.

Daily cleaning of the Sawyer Park bathrooms was discussed (currently the Trust is paying \$80 per day for bathroom cleaning), wondering if Park Trust would allow counselors to take on this task during camp hours to help save on cost . Donna to further discuss with the Park Trust.

The 2023 Camp registration process was reviewed with discussion surrounding how this can be improved. Sarah to contact local rec depts to determine the success of their registration process, so KRSC can determine a more efficient process for 2024.

After Stephanie's departure from the meeting, KRSC members voted to raise her 2024 pay rate by \$1/hour.
POST MEETING UPDATE: Kathy was alerted to this pay increase decision on 13-Dec-23.

Senior Coffee Chats: The December coffee chat is being combined with the KES Senior Joy event on Thursday, Dec 14th at KES. Sarah updated the social media pages and requested the town calendar be updated to reflect this.

Sweetheart Dance: Alnoba has confirmed the event date of Friday, 02 Feb 2024, this will be open to Kensington residents in Kindergarten- 6th grade. The DJ has been booked from 5-8pm, charging \$450. Donna to reach out to Jim Weber regarding his interest to continue hosting the photo booth. Pizza will be purchased through Pizza Academy in Exeter. Melissa Lacasse confirmed her interest to attend and photograph the event. Quick review of refreshment order from 2023; to purchase same quantity of food/ beverage items. Review of borrowed items from 2023 for table and gathering room decorations. Event registration forms will soon be created and made available to residents.

NYE Fireworks: Donna confirmed the Dec 31st firework display will begin at 5:45pm from Field C. Quick review of event and parking details.

Meeting closed at 7:00pm.

The Kensington Recreation and Social Committee has moved their regular meetings to the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Town Hall; this is subject to change based on the members' availability. The public is always encouraged to attend. The next KRSC meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2024, 5:30pm at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Minghella