

Town of Kensington  
Kensington Recreation and Social Committee (KRSC)  
September 18, 2023  
Public Meeting, Town Hall  
5:30 pm

**Attending:**

Courtney Brady, KRSC Member  
Jessica Minghella, KRSC Member  
Donna Carter, KRSC Member  
Sarah Turcott, KRSC Member  
Bob Soloman, Board of Selectman

Sara Grotheer, Public Attendee

Meeting opened at 5:34 pm.

Minutes from previous meeting accepted.

**Halloween Pumpkin Wall:** Members voted to host the event on Oct 31st at the stonewall parking lot across from the Town Hall and Church. Carved pumpkins and decorated pumpkins can be dropped off by 5pm at the stonewall, and need to be picked up by 7pm otherwise they will be offered up to the local farm animals as a Halloween treat! Donna will reach out to the Cottage Rd family farm for their interest in accepting the pumpkin donations post event. The Congregational Church confirmed their ongoing interest in co-hosting a voting competition for best pumpkin, with a cash prize to be awarded post event (members voted to increase cash prize to \$50). Lili and Donna will be at the parking lot to light up all participating pumpkins, hand out candy items to trick or treaters, and to manage the voting. Sarah will post this event on the social media outlets with hopes of obtaining record number of pumpkins from residents.

**Holiday Stroll:** KRSC and the Congregational Church together are planning the stroll with the 3 horse drawn carriages, to occur Nov 26th. Donna to obtain the updated cost for the horse and carriages (in 2022 the cost was \$1100 per cart). Sarah to alert the KPD of this date, as a police escort is required. The details of the stroll plan will be confirmed at the next KRSC meeting.

**New Year's Eve Fireworks:** Members voted to host the 4th annual firework display at Sawyer Park (field C) to occur 31-Dec-23. Donna is working to secure the contract. Details of the event will be shared on the various social media platforms and on the KES marquis.

**Senior Coffee Chats:** KRSC Members voted to host coffee chat on Tuesday, Oct 17th at 11am. Location will be confirmed, but to occur at either The Grange or Town Hall. Members spoke of the heating issues at the Grange (Donna to discuss with Meghan about using the fan counter clockwise to push heat down). During this meeting, Sarah sent a message informing the KES Kindergarten teachers of this agreed upon date, and to request whether they would like to involve the Kindergarten children in this senior coffee chat. Sarah to share details on social media platforms.

**Ski Club (snowboarding and skiing):** Sarah provided a brief update to the Ski Club preparation, as she is working with the East Kingston Recreation Committee to ensure this opportunity is possible. Both a beginner and advanced program will again be offered. The advanced program at Pats Peak Ski Area in Henniker, NH. The plan is to host this 5-week advanced program on Wednesday evenings for the more experienced skiers in 3rd-8th grade. Busing to Pats Peak will be offered at no additional cost to Kensington residents (KRSC members voted to provide a bus stipend to cover this fee), and will pick up registered skiers at KES ~3:30pm. Several chaperones will be necessary, and kids in this advanced program will be required to put on their own gear. The beginner program

will continue at McIntyre Ski Area in Manchester, NH for K-5th graders; as there will be no offered busing to Manchester, parents will be required to transport their skiers. Registration details will be forthcoming.

**Sweetheart Dance:** Donna to contact Alnoba and obtain available Friday dates in February.

**Mother-Son Event:** Members briefly discussed planning this event as a fishing trip in Spring 2024. This will be further discussed at a future meeting.

**Other Items:**

1. Courtney Brady spoke of the upcoming Holiday Market at KES, planned for 02-Dec-23. The KES PTO is hosting this event and looking to obtain donated items for the raffle table. Courtney requested approval from the KRSC to donate a week of summer camp 2024 as a raffle item. The members voted and agreed to provide 1 week of summer camp 2024 to the PTO Holiday Market raffle.
1. KRSC Members voted to replace the Spike Ball game that was broken by users at the recent Old Home Day event. The game costs \$63 on Amazon; Jessica will purchase this game and expense the cost.
1. Sarah provided an update to her discussions with Kathy Felch, as Kathy continues to work on implementing the #areyouin program (a Key Collective Program):

*In 2017, The KEY Collective's #areuin? card program was launched to provide NH's economically disadvantaged K-12 students access to out-of-school programming that they might not typically have access to due to financial constraints.*

KRSC will again discuss this effort to designate a dollar amount or a set # of camp weeks to provide to this program.

Meeting closed at 6:37pm.

The Kensington Recreation and Social Committee has moved their regular meetings to the second Thursday of each month at 5:00 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 October 5, 2023, 5:30pm at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Minghella