

## Recreation Advisory Board

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 5:30

### Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Andrew Magoun, Bill Hansen, Travis Seaver and Don Stowell.

**Absent:** Chris Fitzgerald, Tim Valenti, Karl Cyr, Penny Dougherty, Jason Hanken and Rhonda Grigg.

**Others Present:** Pete Bingham & Patty Murphy

**I. Welcome:** Bill Hansen called the meeting to order at 5:33pm and thanked everyone for attending.

#### **II. Department Update – Pete Bingham:**

- **Winter Programs** – Recreation Department basketball and ski programs are up and running. Basketball will in in a month for the older kids in leagues. Bitty Ballers will begin at the end of February and will run for four sessions. Ski has two Wednesdays left and 235 skiers are participating this year, needing an additional Coach bus. The ski program had one less week in its schedule this year due to less early release Wednesdays on the school schedule. Patty has been busy working on the Summer Brochure and should wrap things up at the end of the week and send the book off to print the following week. One of the hold-ups in getting the brochure out sooner to the community, is the time it takes to hear back from 40-50 instructors and create a camp schedule for the summer. The department understands the frustration with the community as other non-local programs open sooner. The registration open date is a month earlier than in the past as it used to open after April vacation. It now opens on two dates: March 17 for summer adventure camps and Val Halla camps and March 24 for all other camps and programs. The summer adventure camps are “cared based” and have over 250 kids in attendance. The annual Winter Family Fun Day took place last Saturday and was a success due to a recent snowstorm, however there were not as many people in attendance as the previous years.
- **Budget** – The FY27 recreation budget was submitted on January 30. Pete and Patty will meet with the town manager, assistant town manager and finance director soon. The next step is the budget presentation to the Town Council.

#### **III. Twin Brook Facility Master Plan Project:**

- **Update for Greely Road** – The property lease between the Town of Cumberland and the MSAD was outdated. Amendments were made and property lines have been updated. This was facilitated through both the Town attorney and MSAD attorney. After the first 10 years, the lease was to be updated annually. That has been amended to every 10 years. The leased area by the MSAD is just the fields and parking, not the wooded area. The project to add two “Little League/softball” fields is in the development stage. The fields location would be on the open space between the current softball field and Greely Road. If the two additional fields are added, parking will also be added. Pete met with Little League representatives and Chris Bolduc to gauge financial and facilitation interest from Little League. When the ground thaws, soil tests will be completed. Field use will be from both the MSAD and Little League. The town will contribute in-house labor for soft structure, drainage and the parking lot (for 40 cars). The area has been permitted which will expire in two years. If this progresses, the Little League and MSAD will be responsible for the cost to develop the fields. Parking will not be allowed along Greely Road. The fields on Drowne Road will remain Little League’s primary fields.
- **Update on Rules & Policies** – Pete mentioned that the first draft for updating the Twin Brook Rules & Policies is almost complete and a copy will be emailed to Advisory Board members prior

to the next meeting so that input and suggestions can be discussed. Andrew asked if we are reaching out to community members for input, i.e., the dog policy. There is some information available from the Comp Plan Survey and in addition a flash vote will be created and sent out to get additional input. There are no plans to expand the park and there is a Forest Management Plan in place for selective harvesting. Andrew believes that dog policy discussions will take place at the Council level.

- **Playground Update** – Pete and Bill Hansen had a brief playground meeting and plan to convene the playground subcommittee ahead of the next meeting to report the next steps and progress. The playground subcommittee will be made up of two town staff members and three Advisory Board members. Pete mentioned that the town has lost approximately 20% of funding for the playground and is hoping to offset that number with a journal transfer. The hope is that a playground installation representative can come this spring to see what structures can be purchased with the approved remaining amount of funding. Andrew asked if it has been explored to ask other local groups to contribute if there is a shortfall (for example, CSC or Youth Lacrosse) or the PTO or local banks and companies. Andrew also asked if the Town is looking to acquire more land for future needs and to acquire open space.
- **Additional Update** – Tuttle Road side park projects have been identified in the 5 and 10 Capital Improvement Budget. Drainage for the back fields needs to happen and now one field at a time can be shut down (because practices/games can take place on the turf field) so the work can be completed. Additional paving is also a possibility, bringing pavement as far as the shelter building which significantly cuts down on dust in late summer and fall as well as ice issues in the winter. Pete plans to meet with Dave Cowen, (LCC Board Member) and Bridget Perry, (Town Planner) next week regarding Twin Brook mapping and the delineation on invasives and mowing. No trail expansion is in the works and park staff will continue to manage the upkeep/maintenance on the current trails.

**VII. Adjournment, next meeting** – A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:30. The date for the next meeting is planned for March 10.