

**NHRPA Business Meeting
March 15, 2018
HealthTrust, 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord, NH**

Members Present: Greg Bisson, Nate Trauntvein, Eric Feldbaum, Aimee Gigandet, Jeff King, Matt Frye, Joe Manzi, Arene Berry, Tara Tower, Meghan Spaulding, Tara Barker, Renee Sangermano, Matt Casparius

Staff Present: Kerry Horne

1. **Call to Order:** 9:34 am

2. **Secretary's Report:**

Tara Tower made a motion to accept the January minutes as presented. 2nd by Eric Feldbaum. Motion approved by all.

3. **Treasurer's Report:**

Arene presented the updated treasurer report. We have currently spend 71% of the budget and asked Kerry what to expect in outstanding membership renewals? Our account balance is currently at \$6,000; which is the lowest it has been in the 2 years she has been treasurer. Kerry reported that we will start receiving income from the Wink Tapply Workshop soon and wasn't concerned at this point.

Arene asked about conducting a brief internal audit so that we know its been done, but said that the Finance Committee could use some new members. Tara Tower mentioned that there had been talk in the past about having the past president serve on that committee. Greg suggested that maybe a few people could gather before or after the May meeting.

Arene also brought up our 501©6 tax status. It came up in conversation with Wendy Werner who was trying to get a grant for Wink Tapply but we're not eligible because we're not a 501©3. Arene is going to look into what the process would be and pros and cons of each. Kerry reported that lobbying is biggest difference between c3 and c6 but didn't think it would be an issue. Having a 501©3 would be more beneficial to us. We would have to update our bylaws. Tara Tower made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, 2nd by Aimee Gigandet. Report approved by all.

4. **Executive Director's Report:**

Kerry Horne reported that membership has remained consistent but that we should continue to focus on trying to grow our commercial members.

Executive Board Nominations are currently open and being accepted thru Friday, March 30th. At the end of the nomination period, Kerry will contact them and make sure those nominated want to run. Elections will open up April 9th – May 4th. Kerry said that she will be able to validate who is a voting member to make sure non-members votes aren't counted.

Currently only Kerry has submitted a budget for next year and are waiting for the various committees. We have budget discussions scheduled for April 13th following the April workshop. The final vote on the budget is scheduled for Thursday May 10th following the NHRPA Meeting.

The NH Municipal Association wants to spotlight NHRPA in one of their future newsletters, which is good publicity for us.

Registration is currently open for the April Professional Development workshop on “How to Avoid a Nightmare at Your Summer Camp” which will be led by Kerry Horne and will be held at the former DRED office.

5. President’s Report:

Greg wanted everyone to know that NRPA does actually audit professional members certifications as he is currently being audited.

Greg sent out an email about House Bill 1307 which if passed and your Town went to a default budget would makes us beholden to last year's budget number even in the situation where continuing obligations exist. This would obviously put us in a very perilous budget situation and could lead to us having to find hundreds of thousands of dollars in the event of a default budget, especially in a year where we experience large increases in costs in areas.

6. Scouting & NHRPA:

Matt Frye who is a Clinical Assistant Professor at UNH and also a Cub Master in Brentwood and he is looking at the role Scouting could potentially play in communities. Jeff King mentioned that his Department in Peterborough currently charters 4 units and the Fire Department charters a Fire Explorers post.

Chartering a unit is basically getting permission from the Boy Scouts of America which allows you to offer their Scouting program at the local level which would be similar to working with any other organization to run programs in your community. As the Chartering organization you serve as a fiscal agent for the pack/troop.

Matt wants to have access to the NHRPA and work on a survey of the membership to the attitudes, interests, perceived barriers related to Scouting. Aimee Gigandet mentioned previously that she had met with the Venturing program in Newmarket. The Boy Scouts charge a membership fee but that no money would be coming to the Recreation Department which was a concern. Jeff King stated that he does run his Cub Scout fund thru his revolving fund with permission from Finance Dept. He does collect additional funds above the Boy Scout fee to cover his costs.

Arene Berry stated that when her kids were in it; the local church was Charter but they basically provided a space to meet and nothing else. She wondered what would be the benefit to a Recreation Department to chartering a group. Jeff King reported that for his Department, it gives him the ability to offer ready made outdoor programming. Matt Frye reported that a Recreation Department would most likely be more active as a Charter Organization that a church would be since we understand youth development. Kerry felt that she felt a membership survey is probably a good idea, but also asked for an article for the newsletter.

7. Granite State Track & Field Update:

Kerry Horne provided an overview on Granite State Track & Field. The Committee lost a major sponsor when Sylvania pulled the plug on their \$8,000 sponsorship. She met with Committee last week. They will have to significantly scale back their budget but they do enough funding in their account to get thru this year.

Kerry also said that she made an introduction between Donna & Paul to Convenient MD. She stated that it was up to them to connect about a potential partnership.

A location for State Meet has not yet been finalized but marketing materials should be coming out soon. Aimee Gigandet asked if there was any thought of ever charging a fee to help sustain the program. Kerry stated that it was discussed and she was clear that they will need to find a way to sustain the event moving forward.

8. Wink Tapply Update:

The Wink Tapply Workshop will be held the first Saturday in June in Franklin.

9. State Conference Update:

Chris Nunes from the Woodlands Township in Texas has been confirmed as the Keynote speaker. The conference will be held on September 13th at the new Concord Recreation facility.

10. Northern New England Conference:

Tara Tower reported that after 10 years at the Attitash Grand Summit, the Committee felt it was time to look for a new venue. The bylaws state that the conference has to be in Bartlett/Conway area and so they sent out a request for proposals and received three back which they were able to tour this year.

The North Conway Grand Hotel was selected, which is located in Settlers Green in North Conway. All breakout rooms are downstairs together and the rooms are not owner owned like at Attitash so the hotel controls all of the room availability. The vendor social might be right in the hotel bar instead of having a hospitality suite. Dates have not been finalized yet but will be a similar time frame to other years. NH is the Host State next year.

11. NHRPA Clothing Drive (Merchandise Drive):

Greg reported that thru a partnership with Collins Sports, members can now purchase clothing with the NHRPA Logo on it and the organization makes \$5 per item purchased.

12. Old Business

There will be a professional development workshop April 13th on "How to Avoid a Nightmare at Camp". Kerry will be presenting the session but expects a lot of audience participation.

13. New Business – NH Fisher Cats:

The Fisher Cats reported that they couldn't pull anything together for a field maintenance workshop especially with snow. There was discussion about an NHRPA Day in April or May and renting one of the suites again.

Eric Feldbaum made a motion to adjourn. 2nd by Meghan Spaulding. Meeting adjourned at 11:02 am.