

NHRPA Business Meeting

January 10, 2018

Northern New England Parks & Recreation Conference

Members Present: Rachel Gasowski, Eric Feldbaum, Arene Berry, John Kohlmorgen, Dan MacLean, Melissa Shaw, Herb Greene, Ole Anderson, Erik Burkowski, Janet Horvath, Tara Barker, Craig Fraley, Renee Sangermano, Christina Cruz, Deb Brown, Kristen Davenport, Meghan Spaulding, Andy Bohannon, Dan Sturgeon, Rosinda Johnson, Regina Richford, Leslie Dion, Donna Kuethe, Noriko Yoshida Travers, Samantha Beaudoin, Kortney Dorow, Krystal Alpers, Rick Alpers, Tara Tower, Nate Trauntvein, Christine Collins, Tasha Dooley, Mike Ferguson, Sammie Powers, Marianne Ryan, Shane Allen, Amy Lovisek, Jeff King; Aimee Gigandet,

Meeting Called to order: 5:00 pm

Secretary's Report: No report to approve

Treasurer's Report: Arene Berry handed out copies of the budget with updated totals showing the percentage of each line item that has been spent year to date. Donna Kuethe made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. 2nd by Andy Bohannon. Motion approved by all.

Executive Directors Report:

Membership: We have 2 new members from the Pines Community Center which brings our current total up to 252.

Kerry reported that we have a new VIP Member – JPI Pyrotechnics which is a \$1,000 membership.

Fundraising: The Breathe NH Fun Pass books will be starting up for 2018. NHRPA earns \$5 for every book that is sold. Kerry is placing the first order for books on Friday; if your Department is interested in selling the Breathe NH Books, please contact Kerry immediately.

Kerry reported that she is working to expand the Summer discount ticket program this year. Details will be coming out shortly to the membership.

Education & Training: The next workshop will take place on February 9th at 9:30 am at Primex. The topic of the workshop is "Addressing Employee Performance."

The Vermont Recreation & Park Association is interested in partnering with us to offer the Maintenance Workshop on annual basis instead of every other year. She is looking for volunteers to join the Committee to plan it.

Save the date for the Annual State Conference which will be held on September 13th at Concord Recreation's new facility.

Newsletter: Kerry reported that she is having a difficult time getting content for the newsletter. If you have a program or special event that you want to highlight; if you won an award or anything else special has occurred, please send the details to her.

Elections: NHRPA Elections will be coming this Spring. Stay tuned for details.

President's Report:

Shane Allen from UNH who was the Student Scholarship Winner will be using the money he won to become certified.

Granite State Track & Field:

Donna Kuethe is now the Chair for Granite State Track & Field. She extended a special thank you to Christine & Rick for their dedication to the program over the last few years. The Committee is currently looking for new volunteers to join the Committee to help keep the event going strong. For 2018, the Regional Meets will be held on June 16th in Rochester and Lebanon and the State Meet will take place on Friday, June 22nd. The location for the State Meet is currently to be announced.

Photovoice – City of Manchester:

Janet Horvath reported on her Photovoice project with the Foundation for Healthy Communities. The purpose of the project was to improve access to parks. She recruited 13 kids between the ages of 9 – 12 and gave each of them cameras to take pictures of the built environment between their homes and their local parks. They took those pictures and mapped out routes to the park which created a unique perspective that showed the obstacles kids were faced with. This project will help the City to reduce those obstacles.

Old News:

Professional Development – Rick Alpers talked about the Primex Conference which features a variety of great leadership speakers. The Primex Conference is free; your only cost is the hotel which is offered at a significantly reduced rates. The conference will be held on May 9th & 10th. Rick also mentioned a free webinar coming up on February 15th on volunteer liability.

New News:

Aimee Gigandet talked about the FISH Program (Forward In Self Help) which is essentially a pat on the back for you. You earn points for doing things that help you. At the end of the year you are given a ticket for every point you earn and then at the State Conference, tickets are drawn from the pot and you can win prizes. The grand prize is \$1,000 which can be used towards professional development.

The Wink Tapply Workshop will be held on June 2nd at the Franklin Community Center.

Jeff King provided an update from the Legislative Committee regarding legislation that they are currently looking at.

- HB 1233 – Would preempt local regulations related to fertilizers
- HB 1794 – Would charge Towns or businesses that rent canoes or kayaks a fee with the money raised going to Fish & Game.
- SB 410 – Creates a requirement for people to register their canoes & kayaks.
- SB 1421 – Would require that event tents must comply with all building & fire codes.

Krystal Alpers reported that award nomination forms will be able to submit online this year and the deadline to submit them is due no later than June 1st.

Renee Sangermano talked about the youth employment law session from last fall and the rule about school buses needing to have seat belts. She reported that she spoke to a staff member from Senator Shaheen's office about getting the rule changes. She will report back if she hears anything.

Tara Tower reported that surveys from the Northern New England Parks & Recreation Conference will be coming out soon.

Motion to adjourn made by Tara Tower; 2nd by Janet Horvath. Adjourned at 5:32 pm.