

NHRPA Business Meeting

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Northern New England Parks & Recreation Conference

5:00 pm

Members Present: Greg Bisson, Matt Casparius, Tara Barker, David Gill, Stacy Libby, Rachel Gasowski, Jessica Tennis, Kortney Dorow, Arene Berry, Tara Tower, Chris Dillon, Nate Trauntvein, Herb Greene, Krystal Alpers, Rick Alpers, Eric Feldbaum, Dan MacLean, Les Dion, Ole Anderson, John Kohlmorgen, Melissa Shaw, Rich Desharnais, Kati Lary Jopek, Renee Sangermano, Bob Barcelona, Jim Hilton, Wendy Werner, Janet Horvath, Andy Bohannon, Scott Blewitt, Aimee Gigandet, Meghan Spaulding, Noriko Yoshida-Travers, Craig Fraley, Christine Collins, Dyana Martin, Donna Kuethe, Dan Sturgeon

Meeting Opened: 5:01 pm

Secretaries Report: Minutes from the November 10, 2016 and December 9, 2016 were reviewed. Motion by David Gill to accept minutes as presented; 2nd by Tara Tower. Motion approved by all.

Treasurers Report: Arene Berry handed copies of the budget. We are 50% of the way thru the year and each line item shows how much of the budget the Association has spent to date. Motion by Chris Dillon to accept the Treasurers Report, 2nd by Herb Greene. Motion approved by all.

Executive Directors Report: Since Kerry Horne was unable to attend the meeting, Greg Bisson read her report.

- **Membership:** Online renewals going well and she will be following up with a few communities who have not yet renewed. Currently we have 255 total members which puts us 10 below where we were at this point last year.

Membership Totals by category:

Level	Total	
Agency	51	(9 fewer)
Associate	12	
Board or Commission	1	
College/University	19	(1 fewer)
Commercial Member	53	
Honorary	3	
Non-Profit Partner	2	
Professional Member	112	
Retired Professional	2	

- **Fundraising:** The Association is going to be implementing a new procedure for fundraising. All fundraising will be coordinated by Arene Berry and Kerry Horne. Breathe NH Fun Pass books are now available. Each Fun Pass book costs \$35.00, and NHRPA will make \$5 per book sold. There is no risk to your department in this fundraiser, as unsold books don't have to be returned at the end of the year.

All departments who participate will be responsible for completing a report form three times during the year. The form will be emailed to you at the end of the months of March, July and October. Payments for Fun Pass Books must be made payable to your department and then your department is responsible for paying NHRPA the amount that you report on your March, July and October report form. Unfortunately NHRPA can no longer accept checks made payable to NHRPA directly. Last year there was a number of times where several months passed between when someone purchases the book and when NHRPA receives the check. The Association then lost money when the check bounced.

- **VT/NH Maintenance Workshop:** NH is very well represented on the Committee this year and Kerry will be handling all online registrations for the conference and vendors.
- **NHRPA Work plan:** The Executive Board is currently working to update the NHRPA work plan. Kerry will be reaching out to Committee chairs shortly to have them attend a work session with the Executive Board. She will also be looking for new members to join the various committees.
- **Newsletter:** The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is Wednesday, January 18, 2017. All members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures, or anything else you would like to share.
- **Next Executive Board Meeting:** The next Executive Board Business Meeting will take place on Friday, February 10th at 9:30 am at Primex in Concord.

Presidents Report: Greg Bisson started out his report by thanking Jim Hilton for all his years of service.

- VT NH Workshop has been scheduled for May 31st. The Committee is hoping to hold it in Lebanon this year but at this time the location is still to be announced. This workshop is a good opportunity for seasonal staff members. Members are also encouraged to share the information with your public works Department in your community.
- UNH is going to be leading a Grant Writing workshop on Friday, March 10th. Workshop will be held at Health Trust.
- There is a record number of 210 attendees registered at the Northern New England Parks & Recreation Conference.
- Executive Board held the first part of a goal setting session yesterday with Rick Alpers from Primex. There is a large turnover on the Executive Board this year and among the topics we're discussing is the work plan which was last updated before we hired Kerry Horne as our Executive Director. Once the Board finishes updated it, it will be sent out to the membership.
- Greg talked about the passing of Kim Perkins who was a large part of this Association. Aimee Gigandet made a motion that we should donate \$250.00 to the North Conway Community Center in Kim's memory. Motion was 2nd by Dyana Martin and approved by all.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Renee Sangermano informed everyone that she is working with NRPA Young Professional Network, on a program called "Visit a Park Day" which is been scheduled for the first Friday in October. The group is currently working on media packet that they hope to make available to everyone this spring.
- Greg Bisson talked about the all New England Executive Board meeting that was held earlier today. Each state shared what they are working on and what challenges they are facing. The idea of the meeting was to collaborate on ideas. The other states are doing things we could be doing and so it generated some ideas for the Executive Board to look at duplicating here in NH.
- Eric Feldbaum reported that the Land & Water Conservation Fund expires in 2018. Right now the focus has been primarily on urban areas. If you have big events in your community; particularly those that take place at sites that have received Land & Water Conservation Funding make sure you highlight them and invite elected officials. Tracey Willette from Bangor Maine was featured in the NRPA Magazine in October for an event they run at an LWCF site.

- Christine Collins reported the dates of this year's Granite State Track & Field events. The regional Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 17th and the State Meeting will take place on June 23rd. Volunteers are needed to help coordinate these events. Anyone interested should reach out to Christine.
- Tara Barker reported that the Scott's Pitch Hit and Run event will take place in tentatively on May 7th in Manchester. Volunteers are needed to help at this event. Anyone interested should reach out to Tara.

Motion to adjourn: Arene Berry, 2nd by Tara Tower

Adjourned at 5:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Casparius
NHRPA Secretary