

Millinocket Recreation Commission

Meeting 3/12/25

Present: Tom, Rick, Amanda, Stephanie, Cody (Rec director)

Absent: Andrew, Sue

Meeting called to order at 9:00am

Review of Minutes: Review of both January and February minutes. Motion by Tom 2nd by Stephanie. 4-0

Discuss programs:

Cody - Youth basketball and cheer is all wrapped up with a great season in both activities. We hosted a basketball tournament in February and participated in two tournaments: the Millinocket Hoop Classic, and Lincoln Invitational. Cheer had competitions in Ellsworth and the Maine State Championship at the Cross Center with both team and individual awards. Shifting into spring and closing up basketball/cheer with coaches. (keys, uniforms)

The next Senior meal is this Monday at noon with a St. Patrick Day themed meal, Corned Beef, Ham, Chicken Stew and Veggies. The Senior social is also continuing on Wednesdays from 9 to 11. We've had low numbers, but several of our scheduled days have been cold, windy or stormy. I was recently at the Medway Senior Citizens meeting and attended with John Marden from the Millinocket Memorial Library to present information on our senior programs.

Spring programs are underway, with Summer programming/brochures out soon. We will host another cheer camp, and am working on other camp info and discussions on scheduling. We will put out packets to the schools well before the camp dates. The warmer weather is bringing more people out walking and recreating. There's been activity at the dog park as well. We will transition into spring activities such as getting the courts opened. Noting as well that Winter is still here and we will open sites as we can.

Winter Recreation:

Cody - We had a good season and will be closing up the ice rink. We were lucky to have a cold season but are now battling Spring weather and rain. We took down the ski tow rope ahead of the rain, and we will have some work to do as the ground thaws to finish up the project. (trenches dug for cables, fences, and small electric heater instead of propane - backup info sent to town office) As we open that area we will plan alongside KAT/OSI Kevin Stewart as the trail manager. We will continue to have mixed use in the area and work on a grooming plan and winter trail access around the ski/life area. As we get closer to next season we will have the area mapped out with a site plan for access/safety.

Committee Concerns:

Tom - Age Friendly met yesterday and they are working on an Earth Day in place of the Snowdown that got cancelled, and would like to get everyone involved in the project. Cody mentioned that the rec also

has some projects planned to spruce up the flower beds and around the tennis courts and the pool. Tom notes we would clean up all the parks - Michelle will head this up and do a 9am to 12pm cleanup with a wrap up for the BBQ. Steph notes a group of cheerleaders will assist as well, with t-shirts and glitter at the ready!

Tom - Asked about the budget. Cody notes that the proposed budget was submitted with some minor changes.

- Increase for part time staffing, increase for Maintenance position, and for general/vehicle maintenance. \$750/\$750
- Decreased some accounts that had room, Fertilizer/Seed.

Fertilizer had the largest increase over time. We had a late season October fertilizer round which may not be needed given our climate. If the season ends early and there is too much fertilizer in the soil, it can damage it over time and felt was an appropriate decrease of \$2,000. The added maintenance lines will help appropriately categorize expenses. There are additional some increases such as hospital insurance that increased our budget by \$13,000. We will also be asking for an additional \$10,000 for the Snowmobile Club local share. This match from the town has been \$15,000 historically for several years. Due to inflation and higher costs to the clubs, the proportion of our share has been less over the last couple of years. An increase will help support the clubs in the region that also help Millinocket's trails.

Tom notes the maintenance changes, and Cody notes the different categories of maintenance we've had and what we will be able to use now. Tom also notes that we do need to work with the clubs on moving the trail on Central St. as it is an accident waiting to happen. Cody notes he has discussed this recently with John Raymond of Northern Timber Cruisers and that we all are on the same page with getting an alternate route. Downtown access is another conversation, but one we should also have.

Next meeting: April 9th 9:00am

Motion to adjourn Tom - 2nd Rick 4-0

Meeting ended at 9:30am