

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
November 14, 2018, 4:00 pm

Committee Members present: Councilor Jonathan McCallion, Chairman
 Councilor Martin P. Dumont, Sr.
 Councilor Richard R. Michaud
 Councilor Edward Levasseur

Administration/Staff present: City Manager, Bob Belmore
 Director of Planning & Community Development, Shanna
 Saunders
 Deputy City Clerk, Kelly Gagne
 Recreation Supervisor, Kristen Davenport

Other: School Board Member, Thomas McCallion
 Preston Horton and his parents

The meeting was called to order by Councilor McCallion at 4:00 pm

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilor Dumont moved to accept the minutes of the Meeting held on September 13, 2018, seconded by Councilor Michaud; motion passed 3-0

BASKETBALL TRAVEL LEAGUE UPDATE

Kristen Davenport updated the Committee regarding the competitive youth travel basketball team. The amount of time it takes to make the program successful is becoming increasingly difficult due to only having one full-time staff member who coordinates the games and practices etc. Moving forward we would like to dissolve the travel basketball program from the recreation offered programs to allow the focus on our other existing programs, new programs and event development. There was discussion on the travel league with the limited resources and shifting focus to other old and new programs in Somersworth. Manager Belmore stated he had discussed this decision and concurred with shifting limited staff time to other non-competitive basketball and program ideas for senior residents.

The Committee consensus is to dissolve the youth travel basketball team from the Recreation Department, beginning next year.

PUBLIC ART WALL PROPOSAL

Preston Horton, a student here in Somersworth presented his idea for a graffiti wall to be located within the City of Somersworth.

Director Saunders asked if everyone would just paint over other people's paintings. Preston responded that it would be a "living wall" and painted over white yearly, to allow for new paintings to be done.

There was discussion of locations tossed around.

Councilor McCallion brought up the idea of multiple plywood sheets to be put at the skate park as an idea for artists to use. The Committee consensus was that this might be a good idea. Manager Belmore stated that staff would research this potential idea and report back to the Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilor Jon McCallion brought up the joint Council – School Board goal that was recently developed to plan indoor restrooms and a new concession stand built at the football field. There was general discussion on how to begin and what to do moving forward. School Board Member Tom McCallion discussed the need and agreed to talk to the architect involved in the School's Bonding project about how plans might be pursued for construction. There was discussion on the pros and cons in utilizing volunteers or the CTC students, and exploring donated materials.

Councilor Dumont moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor McCallion, motion passed 4-0 and the meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Gagne, Deputy City Clerk