

## Wallingford Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:49

In Attendance: Bastian Auer, Diane Baker, Tony Cirelli, Michelle Kenny, Eileen Tessier

Public: Shannon Pytlik, Rachael Burch, and Andrew Hjelmhaug

Agenda Additions/Deletions

Motion made by Michelle to accept Agenda; seconded by Tony

All in favor – motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Public is concerned about not having lifeguards. The primary concerns included safety of children at the lake, concerns of rules being followed without a lifeguard present (smoking/swearing/appropriate behavior around children), the draw of the dock for the older children, the liability for the summer camp to have a lifeguard vs the lake to have one, and swimming lessons. The public also commented that Elfin Lake is an important consideration for younger families to move to Wallingford and stay in Wallingford, and having no lifeguards may impact families' desire to use the Lake as well as the economic success of the Lake.

### **Committee Comment**

The committee discussed the following:

- (1) Appreciation of community members participation while at the lake,
- (2) The need for a lifeguard to support the rules of the lake;
- (3) The need for proper supervision for kids using the dock and safety;
- (4) Concern that without a lifeguard the dock will eventually be removed due to lack of supervision (this is a large draw for older children/families to continue using Elfin);
- (5) Financial support for workers to complete the lifeguard course;
- (6) The need for aggressive signage if there is no lifeguard;
- (7) The need for any lifeguards hired to understand the gravity of their job;
- (8) The desire to have a Recreation Director having oversight as a town employee, to enable proper oversight of these positions, both concession and lifeguard positions;
- (9) Committee members agree that it would be beneficial if committee members randomly visited the lake with or without a lifeguard;
- (10) The need to revisit the issue of lifeguards at a later date and time depending on any changes for example a Recreation Director, and the issue of liability to the entire town if something should happen and a lifeguard is on duty.

Michelle made a motion to ask the Selectboard to reconsider lifeguards at Elfin Lake for the 2018 season. This was seconded by Diane.

Vote Results:

Bastian – Yes

Diane – Yes

Eileen – No

Tony – Yes

The motion carried: 3 in favor, 1 against

No one at the meeting is available to attend the Selectboard meeting on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, Michelle will check with Trish and Susan to see if either of them are available to attend the Selectboard meeting on behalf of the committee.

Adjourned at 8:30pm

Approved: 05/29/18

Next Scheduled Meeting will be Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm