

**EJRP Recreation and Parks Advisory Council Meeting
Maple Street Park
Essex Junction, VT**

Thursday, August 29, 2013

MINUTES

Council Members Present: Deb Carlin, Eric Bowker, Abby Rice, Lee Wiebe, Sharon Downs, Jennifer Ashe, Nan Payson

Staff Present: Brad Luck

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Director's Report: Brad presented the director's report, the highlights follow:

- Wrapped up a great summer – it was the first one for Adam Sollace, Nicole Fields, and Caitlin Fay. Really pleased with everything and everyone.
- Fall brochure is out and registration has begun.
- Great first day for the preschool and Village kids.
- Aspire open house on Saturday, September 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Heart & Soul Community Action Summit will take place on Wednesday, September 25, from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at EHS (post meeting, it was decided that we would move the next RAC meeting to that evening with the hope that everyone could attend both).

Parks and Facilities

- Most of the improvements to the entrance and front of the park have been made. Having the fence gone looks great! Pedestrian walk by the entrance nearest 5 Corners will be completed this fall.
- New wood sculptures are up and were featured in the *Essex Reporter*. They add a nice creative touch to the park.
- Harlan is in the process of adding electricity to the performance pavilion and eventually the new maintenance shed.
- Maple Street tennis courts will be resurfaced this fall.
- The Dog Park is a big success and has seen significant usage.
- The security camera for EJRP has been ordered.
- New goals/goal posts have been installed on the lower field.

Staff

- Mark is attending NRPA Director's school in West Virginia.
- One new Village Kids Coordinator at Summit Street School – Kelly Spreen. There were also two Village Kids Coordinators who stayed from last year – this is the first time this has happened.
- At the end of September, the office staff will attend the VPRA Governor's Conference on Recreation.

Other

- We reviewed the history of RAC and the Purpose Statement.
- We discussed topics for future meetings including:
 - Aspire's future
 - Summer camp expansion
 - Life after the bond/future needs
 - Village/Town shared services and future impacts on Rec.
 - Calendar 2.0
 - Continuation of having an EJRP staff member as a guest at future meetings
 - A sign out front of Maple Street (Nan will start the research and bring the info to the next meeting.)
- We agreed that it would be nice to continue to have a different EJRP staff member join us at future meetings. We have enjoyed getting to know them and hearing about what they do.

**Next meeting is set for Wednesday, September 25 @ EHS
for the Heart & Soul Community Action Summit**

Future 2013 - 2014 Meeting Dates: 10/24, 12/5, 1/30, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1, 5/29, 6/26.

Sharon Downs - Secretary of RAC