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**TOWN OF SUNAPEE
RECREATION COMMITTEE
JANUARY 21, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
TOWN MEETING ROOM, 23 EDGEMONT ROAD
DRAFT MINUTES**

Members present:

Jamie Bourassa, Chair
Dan Whitmoyer, Vice Chair
Ian Kirk
Nicole Cassidy
Brenda Balenger
Scott MacNamee (joined at 7:08 p.m.)

Members absent:

Nick Grant

Others present:

Steve Bourque, Recreation Director
Maya Bourque, Student Member
Olive Jennings, Student Member

I. Call to Order

Mr. Bourassa called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

II. Roll Call

III. Community Comments

There were no members of the public present.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Whitmoyer moved to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2025, meeting as written. Ms. Balenger seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Bourassa said more detail was needed in the November meeting minutes and asked about the Town's use of AI.

The motion carried unanimously.

V. Current Initiatives

A. Budget Update

45 Mr. Bourque offered an update on the Rec Department budget, including fund
46 balances, revenues and expenses. He also reported on the status of the revolving
47 fund.

48

49 **B. Warrant Article and 2026 Budget**

50 Mr. Bourque reviewed the 2026 budget, which was approved by the Selectboard at a
51 6% increase over 2025. He noted that 2024 and 2025 warrant articles will be included
52 in the budget moving forward.

53

54 He reviewed the warrant articles that pertain to Recreation:

55

56 Veterans Field Capital Reserve Fund (CRF).

57 Mr. Bourque lowered this request from \$50,000 to \$25,000 to help reduce the burden
58 on taxpayers and hopefully avoid the budget not being approved. The Committee
59 requested a change in wording to reflect that a decision was made to reduce the
60 amount. They noted that wording can be changed at the Deliberative Session. The
61 Committee noted the difficulty of increasing an amount in the future, once it has been
62 reduced.

63

64 They discussed leaving the amount at \$50,000 and amending the CRF to include other
65 fields; Mr. Bourque said the Selectboard would need to provide guidance on this. He
66 recommended creating specific funds for specific locations for transparency, but will
67 discuss this with the Selectboard.

68

69 Clarification of the 1985 Recreation Donations Article (Fund 11).

70 Mr. Bourque explained this article does not dictate how the funds are spent; it is
71 intended to clean up language that does not affect the intent of the fund and ensure
72 all donations are accounted for accurately.

73

74 **C. Update on Use of Late Fees**

75 Mr. Bourque said until the Selectboard approves any changes, late fees will continue
76 to be assessed as they have been in the past, with the exception that late fees will be
77 applied to non-residents the same as they are to residents. The Selectboard will be
78 reviewing all program fees at the February 23rd meeting.

79

80 **D. Fall Fest 2026 and SPTO**

81 Ms. Cassidy reported on a fundraiser, "Shopping in the Harbor," being sponsored by
82 SPTO in the fall. She suggested making it a town-wide event.

83

84 Discussion of this item was tabled until the February meeting.

85

86 **E. Rec Ordinance Working Group Discussion**

87 Mr. Grant was not present, so this item was tabled until the February meeting.

88

89 **F. Student Members**

90 The Committee asked the student members how they felt their voices could be best
91 utilized, and whether time spent attending meetings was useful. Ms. Jennings said
92 time spent at the meetings was useful, as she could share information with other
93 students. However, she did not feel she had many opportunities to share information.
94 She said it afforded her the opportunity to assist with recreation activities.

95
96 Ms. Bourque agreed that she appreciated the opportunity to share information
97 learned at the meetings with other students.

98
99 The Committee discussed asking student members what they would like to get out of
100 their participation.

101
102 **G. Open Items**

103
104 Fourth of July

105 Mr. Bourque reported planning will be starting for the Fourth of July weekend. The
106 celebration will begin Friday and end with the fireworks on Sunday. He invited
107 members of the Committee to join the planning committee and Mr. Whitmoyer
108 volunteered. They discussed whether more events are needed and when the calendar
109 of events will be available. Mr. Bourque noted events could be held Saturday and/or
110 Sunday; the planning committee will discuss this.

111
112 Friends of Sunapee

113 Mr. Bourassa received positive feedback regarding posting events on the Friends of
114 Sunapee page.

115
116 Coordination of Groups

117 The Committee discussed the need for groups to communicate and to work together
118 when planning events for a holiday or celebration. They agreed to discuss this at the
119 February meeting.

120
121 **VI. Next Meeting – February 18, 2026**

122
123 **VII. Adjournment**

124
125 ***A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried***
126 ***unanimously.***

127
128 Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

129
130 Respectfully submitted,
131 Beth Hanggeli, Recording Secretary