

Town of Northfield Public Meeting – Minutes

*Josh Roman*  
5/1/24

Name of the board, committee, or commission: Northfield Recreation Commission (NRC)

Location of meeting (physical address): 69 Main Street, Northfield MA 01360

*April 3*  
Date and time the meeting convened: March 6th 2024 at 6:30pm

Name and contact info of the person filling out this form: Stacy Bond, [reccom@northfieldma.gov](mailto:reccom@northfieldma.gov)

Members present: 1) Josh Roman (JR) - Chair; 2) Chelsea Depault (CD) – Treasurer; 3) Courtney Lawler (CL) and 4) Laura Fries (LF) Pool Advisory Group Coordinator

Members absent: 1) Bob Emberley (BE) – Vice Chair

Others in attendance: 1) Stacy Bond (SB) - NRC Secretary/Director; 2) Madeleine Bonn (via Zoom)

- 
- 1) Call to Order and determine quorum
    - A) 6:33pm Chair (JR) called to order and quorum present.
  - 2) Citizen Input/Guests
    - A) See below.
  - 3) Introduction to ballet classes
    - A) Madeleine Bonn is a resident and ballet instructor looking to possibly offer classes through the NRC. Discussed the type of classes and when to offer them. The committee liked the idea, so SB will follow up on more logistics.
  - 4) Review and approval of minutes from March 6th, 2024.
    - A) Motion made to approve minutes by LF, seconded by CL, vote all yea.
  - 5) Chairs Report
    - A) Nothing extra
  - 6) Baseball/softball/soccer field clean up
    - A) JR will organize. The committee authorized outside teams to utilize the baseball field, with the caveat that they rake the field afterwards to help with the maintenance.
  - 7) Spring Carnival & Fun Run
    - A) The NRC received an email from the NES PTO that they did not have enough volunteers to make the yearly Carnival and Fun Run happen and wondered if the NRC would be willing to do it. The NRC decided they did not want it to fail, so agreed to taking it on this year. They hope the PTO can do a food table.
  - 8) Pickleball
    - A) Still going three nights a week.
  - 9) Adult exercise class update
    - A) Nothing new.
  - 10) Pool Advisory Group
    - A) LF reports unfortunately, due to the pool at the YMCA in Greenfield not being open, we won't be able to offer an April vacation pool swim.
  - 11) Treasurer's Report

- A) \$13,919.02 in revolving.
- B) 7:32 CD needed to leave, but still maintained quorum.
- 12) FY 2025 budget
  - A) No new news.
- 13) Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Update
  - A) LF is liaison for pavilion between the CPC, PTO, and NRC. Things are moving forward, and she has a meeting with the Selectboard on April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 14) Summer Road Race
  - A) Tabled since BE was not present.
- 15) Adult pickup basketball
  - A) Is done for the season.
  - B) Soccer starts next? Begin May or June? Once a week, Wednesdays 5-6pm?
- 16) Indoor Soccer wrap up
  - A) Coaches would like to do it again next year, but maybe only once a week.
- 17) Summer Program 2024
  - A) Currently working on hiring a second Summer Program Counselor.
- 18) Spring sports: Softball, Baseball, T-ball, Inclusion Soccer, Mountain Bike Club
  - A) Registrations are going well. Could use more kids for the Coach Pitch baseball and for the Mountain Bike Club.
- 19) Adult softball team
  - A) Only two people were interested, so it is a no-go this year.
- 20) New Program ideas
  - A) Ballet classes (see above)
  - B) To offer working parents some sort of drop-in service for kids?
- 21) Directors Report
  - A) SB attended the Greenfield Recreation Commission meeting just for learning purposes, and got the information for a person named Mpress that does financial lessons for teens. SB will contact her for more details.
  - B) Should we advertise in Hilltown Families for our Summer Program? \$150-\$700 depending on size. The committee agreed to wait until we get a few more years under our belts.
  - C) NRC was invited to the "Block Party" at Pioneer for the unveiling of the new Auxiliary Weight Gym. We will work with Bernardston Recreation to do indoor soccer and set up a table there to pass out information on our programs.
  - D) Vida Cripps is offering a weekly puppet class during the Summer Program in exchange for a reduced cost to her children attending our Summer Program. The committee agreed it sounded like fun for the kids and a fair exchange (the Summer Staff liked the idea as well).
  - E) SB did some clean up and maintenance in all the sheds, plus switching gears to outdoor sports. Gave DPW a work order to help put up shelving and a few other miscellaneous jobs.
  - F) SB also found a nice kids mountain bike for free so that any kid that needs one has one to borrow for Mountain Bike Club. Committee is okay with sending to Bicycle World for a tune up.
- 22) School lease
  - A) After wondering about why the NRC pays for mowing at NES and what the real use of the gym for the town should be, SB finally looked at the lease between the town and the district and found some discrepancies. SB will contact the school to go over the findings and see what the best route would be for amicably sharing spaces and resources.
- 23) PVRS Aux Weight room reopening
  - A) Besides the information in the Director's Report above, we are still in the preliminary stage with the School District about how to best offer this space to the public once again.



24) Topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance

A) none

25) Scheduled next meeting for 6:30pm on May 1st, 2024 at Town Hall

26) Adjourn

A) A motion was made to adjourn at 8:25pm by JR, seconded by CL, vote all yea.

\*Some common abbreviations: NRC = Northfield Recreation Commission, NES = Northfield Elementary School, CPC = Community Preservation Committee, PTO = Parent-Teacher Organization, MTB = Mountain Bike, and DPW = Department of Public Works