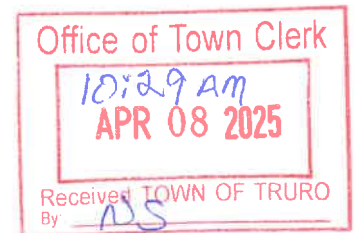


Truro Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

 **Date:** March 25, 2024

 **Location:** TCS Media Center

 **Time:** 3:30 pm



1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chelsea Loughran.
- **Present:** Chelsea Loughran, Beth Cook, Christine McGee, Lindsey White, Drew Locke
- **Town Staff Present:** Austin Smith, Stephanie Rein
- **Absent:** Peter Morris
- **Public Comment:** Hannah King

2. Summer Programming Updates

- **Field Trips & Swim Lessons:**
 - The **summer calendar** is finalized.
 - The program aligns with **Wellfleet's summer schedule**, ensuring consistency in timing.
 - Swim lessons start the same day as the **summer rec program**.
 - **Staffing coverage** will be provided for children who opt out of swim lessons.
 - Coordination is ongoing to **schedule swim lesson groups** based on skill levels and time slots.
- **Swim Lesson Costs & Financial Assistance:**
 - Cost: **\$125 for 7 weeks, five days per week**.
 - Sibling discounts available (**\$65 for second child**, subject to confirmation).
 - **Friends of Truro Recreation** is exploring ways to **fund scholarships** for swim lessons.
 - The committee discussed **fundraising ideas** such as a raffle at a cornhole event to raise money for swim lesson scholarships.

3. Summer Recreation Program Pricing Approval

- Proposed **4.5% increase** in fees to offset costs.
- Previous cost: **\$1,100** for the full summer.
- **Motion to approve the new pricing structure** was made by **Christine McGee**, seconded by **Beth Cook**.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously.
- **Discussion on Fee Impact:**
 - The fee increase aims to balance **affordability for working families** while maintaining program sustainability.
 - **Non-residents** bear a larger portion of the increase.
 - Compared to other towns, the Truro summer rec program remains **one of the most affordable**.
 - Potential return of families who left for Provincetown's longer program due to improved offerings in Truro.

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4. OSTP (Out-of-School Time Program) Registration & Communication

- **Sign-up process:**
 - Adam is **sending weekly reminders** to parents.
 - Registration closes on **Sundays** before each week starts.
 - Late sign-ups create **logistical challenges** with bus coordination and attendance tracking.
 - **Issues & Concerns:**
 - Parents noted **confusion** about sign-up deadlines.
 - Some families had **trouble enrolling late** due to unexpected scheduling issues.
 - Discussion on **day-of sign-ups** and the need for a **clearer process** to handle emergencies.
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5. Shade Structures & Outdoor Activity Improvements

- **Concerns about excessive heat** limiting outdoor activities.
 - Past discussions about purchasing **umbrella shades for picnic tables** were revisited.
 - **Grant opportunities** for permanent **sunshade structures** through the **American Dermatological Association** will be explored.
 - CPC (Community Preservation Committee) funding might be pursued for long-term shading solutions.
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6. Intergenerational Programming Expansion

- **TCS students visited the COA (Council on Aging) for Valentine's Day**—a highly praised event.
 - Upcoming **TCS Cares Club** visit to COA to **play board games**.
 - Proposal to **combine gardening and board games** to allow more student participation.
 - Encouragement to expand **cross-generational events** with COA.
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7. OSTP Behavior Policy & Parent Communication

- **Current discipline tracking system:**
 - Behaviors are categorized into **three tiers** (minor, moderate, major infractions).
 - Parent communication is **inconsistent**, leading to concerns about **transparency**.
 - Incidents sometimes result in **immediate suspensions**, but policies **differ from what parents signed**.
 - **Action Items:**
 - **Unify policies** across all documentation (MyRec, handbook, and printed policies).
 - Ensure parents **sign off** on behavior policies at enrollment.
 - Improve **incident reporting consistency** to prevent discrepancies between staff reports and video footage.
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8. Facilities & Scheduling Updates

- **April vacation programming** will take place at the **Community Center** due to construction at the school.
 - Summer registrations are set to open on **April 15th**.
 - **Spring Events:**
 - **Spring Sprung Scavenger Hunt** at Truro Vineyards.
 - **T-ball** starts on **April 30th**.
 - **Postseason Recreation Programming:**
 - Exploring options for **Wellfleet students** to participate.
 - Need for **additional outdoor shade structures** at the **Community Center**.
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9. Volunteer Appreciation & Community Engagement

- **Upcoming Volunteer Appreciation Event** planned for **September**.
 - Discussion on securing **sufficient funding** to accommodate potential **high turnout**.
 - Encouragement to **register volunteers** in advance for accurate planning.
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10. Teen Engagement & Future Programming

- **Current participation is low**—most attendees live near the Community Center.
 - **Transportation** is a key barrier to increasing teen involvement.
 - Exploring **teen-centered events** with transportation solutions.
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11. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned with a motion by **Chelsea Loughran**, seconded by **Beth Cook**.
- Next meeting scheduled for **June 4, 2024**.

