**Town of Lisbon**

***Mark Stevens***

**Lisbon Parks & Recreation Director**

18 School Street

Lisbon Falls, ME 04250

(207) 353-2289

*mstevens@lisbonme.org*



TO: Glenn Michalowski; Town Manager

SUBJECT: January 2023 Report

DATE: February 13, 2023

January is traditionally the time of new fitness goals, and we began several new programs this month to encourage Fitness in not just our youth but our active adult population as well. The following new programs began in the first few weeks of January:

Open Court Pickup Basketball at LCS & MTM

Open Court Pickup Soccer at LCS

Open Court Pickleball at MTM

Tuesday Evening Yoga classes with Instructor Katherine Perkins at MTM

Wednesday Morning Yoga classes with Instructor Sara Helman at MTM

Zumba classes on Thursday night and Saturday morning at MTM

In addition to this, we began a new program for elementary school girls at the Six Rivers Facility in Topsham to offer Field Hockey skills and drills. Our amazing volunteer coaches donated extensive time and resources, and the program was received very well in its inaugural year, with 25 girls signing up.

In January we experienced some staff overturn at the Before School program. We are happy to share that we have hired Bill Harvey, who already works facilities for the school department, to join our staff in starting the day with the LCS crew.

We continue to meet as a staff to review year end goals and look to the new year. In January we also did accounting for our rec family accounts, following up on any neglected balances throughout the holiday season.

At the January 9 Recreation Committee meeting, Chris Cloutier was voted Chair and Lindsay Larochelle as vice chair of the committee. Upcoming budgets were discussed, and especially resources and fee structures for the Summer Day camps. We discussed facility improvements and the continued growth and success of the senior program. Mark asked the committee to review the language of the committee purpose and mission statement to make sure they were still practical and applicable to the lived reality of today.

On a facilities note, we are planning renovations for the MTM Community Center bathrooms, and had several meetings and estimates pass through this month in order to achieve that. We are reexamining the use of Room 7, formerly the clothing bank, with the hopes of re-establishing the room for Rec use since the clothing bank has been shut down for nearly three years.

January at the MTM also meant stronger measures to enforce the over-18 hours at the Fitness Center as there was a uptick in younger teenagers coming in after hours. Our staff all pitched in to remind our younger members of the limits to their membership.

Throughout January the parks staff worked to establish a rink at the MTM community center. A huge amount of their time also went toward plowing the three January storms that all came in a week before Winterfest, and extensive time preparing Beaver Park for that exciting event!

We had a spectacular day on January 28, and all reports that came in were thrilled at the return of the event. Over 300 people came out for L L Bean Snowshoe Lessons, guided nature tours, dog sled races, snow play, live carving demonstrations by chainsaw artist Greg Waters, free McDonald’s, free chili, chowder, cookies, coffee, and cocoa, and more! Thank you to the Sun Journal of Lewiston and other media outlets for coming to check out our event, as well as our major sponsors Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union and Maine Pellet sales, the Scouts for the warming fire, and our ever-cheerful staff and volunteers who made the event such a success!! Weeks of planning were worth it to see the smiles and engagement on the faces of our families!