



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

Chairperson, Janice Kmetz, called the meeting of the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:52pm on Wednesday, August 10th at Devitt Field. Members present were Janice Kmetz, Carol Jones, Dave Berardis, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Miriam Morrissey, and Kevin Crosby. Those members absent were: Jason Mercer, Cathy Smith, Grace Petroka, Kelly Lacoske, Sarah Kateley, Tania Crosby, Sarah Tullidge, and Peter Woodcock Sr.

Audience of Citizens- There was no audience of citizens.

Secretary's Report- The motion to accept the secretary's report with changes was made by Massey and seconded by Crosby. Motion was passed unanimously. The changes are shown in bold below as follows:

Due to inclement weather, the Parks and Recreation meeting was not held at the Deep River Landing as scheduled but rather was held at the DR Town Hall. Chairperson,

Under Audience of citizens-Kmetz asked that Heidi Ramcke send the flyer to the commission so that we could proof the flyer prior to its distribution. She asked that a copy be sent via e-mail to C Jones and/or herself for review.

Under Old Business (c) summer program-Jones has been going over..and again at @2:30. Meeting will be with Jones, Kmetz, Morrissey and Kim Fair, the summer program director

Under Other Old Business-Thank you note was sent by Jones to Lacoske's father-in-law

Smith emailed Mt Saint John...Change to C. Smith

Two items listed under 'other old business' are actually new programs and should be moved to new programs. They are: 1)There will be some possible basketball pickup games at Plattwood Park for the summer by age group. There was discussion about having two groups with the older kids staying later. Berardis and Crosby will organize. These will be only pick-up games with no registration. There will be adult supervision at all times. 2) Jones also mentioned making the volleyball court & net regulation and possibly marking the court with nylon tape, so that we could offer clinics at the court.

Final change, our next meeting, weather depending, will be held on August 10th 2011 at Devitt field.



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

Treasurer's Report- The motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Massey, and seconded by Crosby, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business-

- a. Summer Concerts: There are two more concerts to be held, 8/11 and 8/18. The concerts that have been held have been well received. The Junior Ancients asked for permission to hold a bake sale at the last summer concert which will be held at Plattwood Park on August 18th. Massey checked with Davinci Restaurant who is providing food at that concert to make sure that that was OK with them. The agreement is that the Ancients can sell baked goods and soda, while DaVinci's will sell food and water. Massey also reported that when the concert was held at the town green that there were no trash receptacles. Kmetz volunteered to speak to the Veterans who are in charge of the green to find out if this situation can be resolved in the future. Folding chairs were left at the green which came from Town Hall. Jones volunteered to pick them up and bring them back to Town Hall. Kmetz shared an e-mail from a town resident that was very complimentary regarding last week's concert which was held at Plattwood Park. The resident loved the atmosphere and the park and thought the band was great.
- b. Carnival: No report
- c. Summer Program: The summer program and workshops are going well and will end this week. Jones reported that the camp had to be held this week at John Winthrop Middle School (JW) as the elementary school was undergoing asbestos removal. Thursday and Friday the camp will meet at Plattwood Park. The afternoon workshops have been well received. Parent surveys have been sent out and a wrap up meeting with the Director of the camp, Kim Fair, and commission members Morrissey, Kmetz and Jones will be scheduled shortly.
- d. 5K Run- A meeting of the 5K Run committee was held tonight at 7:00. So far, three checks have been received from sponsors, totaling \$550.00. Crosby reported that he personally visited many merchants and has verbal commitments from several more to sponsor the race. Flyers have been sent out. Needs for the day of the race were discussed, such as water stations, food, runner's board and workers. Morrissey volunteered to cover a water station and Crosby stated that some of his co-workers volunteered to cover a water station if needed. A meeting for the 5K run will be held on Tuesday, August 30th @6:30 @ Plattwood Park.



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

- e. Family Day/Fireworks: Family Day & Fireworks will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2011 with a rain date for the fireworks of Sunday evening 9/18. Kmetz, Dick Smith, and Jones along with the representative of Pyrotecnico (fireworks company) met and toured Haynes Materials in Deep River to scout the location for the deployment of the fireworks display. Jones has purchased 200 glow necklaces which will be sold by the commission that evening. Crosby will select a movie shortly so that there is time to advertise. The movie will be held at Plattwood Park on Friday, September 16, 2011. Crosby will send Jones the information on the movie so it can be included in the article for the DR newsletter.
- f. Movies: Crosby reported that there will be two other movies sometime in the winter and spring but no titles have been selected and no dates have been set.
- g. Plattwood Park: Much discussion ensued regarding the lights at the basketball court. The light switch is currently in a locked box. Jones made up six keys and distributed them to herself, Kmetz and four to Berardis. Members would like to see them put on timers so that the public at large can use them on any given night. Kmetz stated that there is an agreement in place with the neighbors that the lights be off by 10:00 p.m. The committee agreed to let the situation rest and see how it works out with a few of the members having keys to the lock on the light box. It will be re-addressed at a later time. A quote for volleyball nets, poles, and lining straps is being developed by a company and will be submitted to Jones shortly. Massey reported that she has observed only one lifeguard on 'active' duty at any given time when she has been present. The other life guard is off the beach and taking a break. Massey also expressed her concern and disappointment over the amount of garbage left at the beach and in the picnic areas. She has picked up garbage several times. The town put boulders and chains up to keep people from driving over the lawn and parking near the pavilion. Members have been told by residents that they stopped using Plattwood after they were there and were outnumbered by out of town folks. The commission discussed charging more for out of town groups and closing the park at dusk. A motion was made by Massey and seconded by Crosby to install a gate at the entrance in the spring of 2012. The motion passed.
- h. Devitt Field: A load of mulch was delivered and spread under the playscape. The tire climber was taken down and the new replacement climber is scheduled for delivery on 8/17/11. Two 4x4 posts are missing from the upper portion of the playscape. Jones is working on getting quotes for baby swings. A call came in to Parks and Rec regarding holding a dog agility show at Devitt 'B' field in the spring of 2012. The caller was told that she would need to fill out an



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

application for park use and the commission would then vote on it. An application was received regarding the use of the 'B' field for girl's lacrosse for next spring as well. The applicant spoke to DRLL and men's softball to work out the schedule for the field. Commission approved use as long as DRLL, men's softball and lacrosse would work around each other and other activities that are ongoing there, i.e. Rotary Car show, muster, etc

- i. Town Landing/Dock: Signs were made and installed for vehicles with boats and trailers to park on the right of the parking lot and vehicles without a boat or trailer on the left.
- j. Brockway Ferry: Nothing to report. Clean up needs to be scheduled.
- k. Easter Egg Hunt: Nothing to report.
- l. Fishing Derby: Nothing to report
- m. Halloween: Jones expressed concern that the Town Hall auditorium won't be available for use as HVAC system work is ongoing.
- n. Holiday Stroll: Horse and carriages have been secured for that date.
- o. Basketball: Berardis mentioned that he has not received a bill from the JW custodians for the winter basketball program. The pick-up league has started at Plattwood. Currently the adult supervised program is offered on Tuesday nights with the 10-13 year olds playing from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and older kids, 14-18, from 8:00-10:00 p.m. Berardis stated that he has received lots of great feedback from parents. A parent approached Berardis and offered to supervise a Sunday night pick-up game for kids 7-10 years old. The commission agreed to let her supervise it but voted not to give her a key to the lights as she is from Chester. Berardis agreed to have himself or another 'key holder' available to go turn the lights on for her on Sunday evenings. The program will run through the fall until interest fades.
- p. Bus Trips: Nothing to report.
- q. Golf Tournament: Suspended because there is no golf course. This will be removed from the agenda for next month.
- r. Membership: Kmetz asked the group to help recruit new members as there are still vacancies on the commission. Also, the current members need to be more active and attend meetings more regularly, especially in the summer.
- s. Fundraising: Kmetz requested that members think of fundraising ideas as the commission has several projects that need funding.



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

Other Old Business:

The one day safe boating course is scheduled for Sunday, August 14th at the Deep River Library, from 8:30-4:00. Jones reported that 15 people are signed up. Cost is \$65.00 per person.

New Business/Programs:

Jones will be writing the article for the Deep River newsletter for the fall edition. All committee chairpersons that have information that they would like included in the newsletter, need to submit the material to Jones ASAP. The deadline is Monday, August 15th. Jones reported that she spoke to Greg Ruel about putting on a girl's lacrosse program. He is currently running one in Essex so it was decided not to pursue it at this time.

Jones is looking into a mad science program at the elementary school in the fall as well as a karate program and a weekly afterschool nature program.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Wednesday, September 14th, 2011 at 7:30pm.

A motion was made by Morrissey and seconded by Berardis, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11pm. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Carol Jones, Acting Secretary
Director, Parks and Recreation*