



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 7:37 pm on Wednesday, October 12th at Town Hall. Members present were Janice Kmetz, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Dave Berardis, Carol Jones, Grace Petroka, , Miriam Morrissey, Sarah Kateley. Those members absent were: Jason Mercer, Tania Crosby, Sarah Tullledge, Kelly Lacoske, Peter Woodcock Sr. and Kevin Crosby.

Audience of Citizens- There were two. The first was Marge Calltharp who spoke to the board about using Devitt field for a Dog Fun Match. She represents Kenilworth Kennel Club. The match would attract 100-200 dogs and be held on Sunday, May 27th 2011. It is an event that acts as a practice run prior to a local dog show. The dogs are always on leashes or in pens. They are only off leash for exercise and for obedience training although they are still in a larger gated pen. The dogs are always attended. The club will do all the advertising for the event. There will be no admission charge for spectators. There is an entrance fee for the dogs. Club has insurance that they will need to supply to town and list town as additional insured. Any vendors would have to be registered with the State of Connecticut and the town of Deep River. Group would welcome shack open during their event and would ask for volunteers to clean up after dogs with a donation being made to the volunteers for their efforts. The board will vote on this at the November meeting.

The second 'audience of citizens' was Deep River resident Jim Cunningham. He attended the meeting to provide a quote for basketball hoop extensions that member and basketball coordinator Dave Berardis is proposing the board purchase. The quote is from the Robert H. Lord Co. from Manchester, CT. The cost of the two hoop extensions is \$2585.00. The breakdown is \$1400.00 for the hardware and \$1100.00 for the installation. The extensions are necessary on two basketball hoops at the Deep River Elementary School (DRES) gym so that the hoops can be lowered from the regulation height of 10 feet to 8 feet to accommodate the younger children in the Parks and Rec program. Morrissey suggested that the DRES PTO might be interested in splitting the cost with parks and Rec. Morrissey will contact the PTO to discuss.

Secretary's Report- The motion to accept the secretary's report was made by Petroka and seconded by Massey. The motion was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report- Discussion on water charges at Devitt Field ensued as charges are high. Also, Petroka questioned why the town is paying for the port-o-lets instead of tri-town football who use Devitt field throughout the fall months. Petroka will call Olsen Sanitation to inquire. The town received



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

a \$40 credit form Roger Williams Zoo in Rhode Island for overpayment from the summer program. The motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Kateley, and seconded by Petroka. The motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business-

- a. Summer Concerts: No report.
- b. Carnival: No report
- c. Summer Program: The summer program is done. Kmetz wants the post camp wrap up meeting to be scheduled within the next 30 days. Morrissey will make arrangements.
- d. 5K Run/Walk and Fun Run: The race was a great success. There were 95 runners/walkers and 23 kids participating in the fun run. The event was held on Saturday, September 17th. Many compliments were received on the event. Signage was good this year. One water station set up on wrong side of road so will make sure it is in proper place next year. Jones shared a nice e-mail that came in to Parks and Recreation regarding the race.
- e. Movies: The movie, *Furry Vengeance*, rated PG was shown Friday night, September 16th. The movie went well but had low turnout. Advertising needs to be better next year.
- f. Family Day/Fireworks: Family Day & Fireworks was held on Saturday, September 17, 2011. The fireworks company, Pyrotecnico did the display this year and everyone seemed pleased with the show. The board voted to have them back to do the display for 2012. The DJ was asked to play the music softer and he complied. He also mentioned that he would take requests prior to the event next year via his web site and he will supply us with that information. Next year, Parks and Recreation will mark off an area in the Plattwood parking lot so that the members can more easily set up the table for selling glow sticks, etc. without having to carry the materials in from a long distance.
- g. Plattwood Park: Travel basketball practice is using the lighted court on the next few Monday and Wednesday evenings. Dick Smith is working on getting a timer put on the lights inside the lock box for all evenings from 6-10 with a switch outside of the locked box that can then be switched on and off by whomever would like to use the court. Currently the lights are turned on and off on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.
- h. Devitt Field: Tri-town football is currently using the field. Complaints about the garbage have been received. Petroka will call Tri-town football to make sure they pick up the garbage and move the trash cans closer during practices/games. The window on the snack shack facing the



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

'A' field appears to have been damaged again possibly by another break in attempt. The board agrees that it needs to be replaced. Kateley (who is also involved with DR Little League and runs the snack shack for them) will speak to football about possibly splitting the cost of replacement with Deep River Little League. The window is currently made out of plywood and has two doors that open out towards the field.

- i. Town Landing/Dock: Question as to when the docks will get pulled. Massey to look into to this.
- j. Brockway Ferry: Nothing to report.
- k. Easter Egg Hunt: Nothing to report.
- l. Fishing Derby: Nothing to report
- m. Halloween: The haunted house is set to run from 6:30-10:30 on Friday October 28th. The event is free but a donation of a non-perishable food item is requested for admission. The parade will start at Adams at 6:15 with gathering of participants beginning at 6:00. Jones and Petroka will send out an e-mail requesting help with specific jobs; Volunteers will be needed. A movie will be shown in the auditorium as the selectman notified Parks and Recreation that the area was now available to be used following the HVAC system work that has been ongoing.
- n. Holiday Stroll: To be held on Friday night, December 2nd. Horse and carriages have been secured for that date and will run from 6-9 this year. Kmetz will get in touch with the group that put on the model train exhibit to confirm that they will come this year. Jones will verify dates that were put on the original application requesting the use of the auditorium. Kmetz re-iterated that all committee members are needed as last year the event was so well attended that the few Parks and Recreation volunteers present were very busy.
- o. Basketball: Berardis reported that Bruce Glowac (the region 4 schools facility manager) has made the JWMS gym available for the basketball program for the entire day on Saturdays. In previous years, another program used the gym so Park and Rec basketball could only use the gym from 1:00 on. All registration forms have been sent out via e-mail as well as through the DRES e-mail system. They have also been put on the Deep River Town web site as well as the community link section of the region 4 web site. The due date for registration is November 11th. Jones to make hard copies to put in school offices. Practice is scheduled to begin the 1st week of December and continue throughout the month. Games will begin on the weekend of January 7th. The board voted to allot the money necessary to purchase the two hoop extenders. Massey made the motion to accept the quote of \$2585.00. Morrissey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

174 Main Street ~ Deep River ~ CT ~ 06417

- p. Bus Trips: There is tentatively, a bus trip scheduled for December 10th. The trip is being co-sponsored by Chester, Essex and DR Parks and Recreation commissions. It would be the bus only with a 'free' day to enjoy the city. Jones is working on a few other trips, such as UCONN games.
- q. Membership: Kmetz asked the group to help recruit new members as there are still vacancies on the commission. Also, the current members should try to be more active and regularly attend the monthly meetings.
- r. Fundraising: Nothing to report.

Other Old Business:

Four of the five fall programs that were set up had to be cancelled due to lack of enrollment. The skateboarding lessons are going well. There are 10 children enrolled in the class that meets Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 at Plattwood Skate Park through November 2nd.

Jones is working on a jewelry making workshop as well as an afterschool Lego Robotics program. Also in the works is a celebrity basketball workshop/clinic.

Kmetz reminded all that the new slate of officers will be presented at the December meeting so please consider making a nomination or running for office. Kmetz announced that she will step down in January as chairperson of the commission.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 7:30pm.

A motion to adjourn was made @ 10:17 by Morissey and seconded by Petroka. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

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