



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2012

Chairperson, Janice Kmetz, called the meeting of the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:35 pm on Wednesday, January 11th at Town Hall. Members present were Janice Kmetz, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Kelly Lacoske, Grace Petroka, Miriam Morrissey, Dave Berardis, Don Sampson, Carol Jones, and Kevin Crosby. Those members absent were: Jason Mercer, Sarah Kateley, Tania Crosby, Cathy Smith, Sarah Tulledge, and Peter Woodcock Sr.

Audience of Citizens- There was one. Mr. Jim Tabor, the St. Joseph's Church (Chester) Youth Ministry Coordinator, presented an application to use Plattwood Park for a concert. The concert would be held on Saturday, July 14th 2012 from 6:30-8:00. The application is requesting park use from 4-9 pm. The band 'Full Armor', a contemporary Christian Rock band, is slated to perform. It is a free concert and will be advertised around the shoreline through local churches. The Commission stated that there is no life guard on duty at that time of day. Mr. Tabor stated that they would be willing to pay the life guard to remain on duty if needed. He will give that some more consideration and get back to the commission with ample time to arrange a lifeguard should one be requested. No arrangements for food to be sold have been made to the commission. A motion was made by Crosby and seconded by Berardis to allow the St. Joseph's Youth Group to hold a concert at Plattwood Park on July 14th. The motion passed unanimously.

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- Notable items this month are an extremely high water bill for Devitt field. The first selectman, Dick Smith has been notified and he has been in contact with the water company. Also, Parks and Recreation has brought in more than 27K in revenue. The town expects the commission to bring in some 32K for the fiscal year so Morrissey reported that the commission is on track to successfully reach this goal.

Old Business-

- a. Summer Concerts: No report.
- b. Carnival: Massey has confirmed the dates of the carnival for June 14-17th 2012. Massey also brought in the contract from Imperial Shows, LLC to be signed by Dick Smith.
- c. Summer Program: As voted on at the December meeting, advertisements for the position of Director and Assistant Director have been put in the local papers. Dates of the summer camp have been set; July 2nd through August 10th. It is a six week program.
- d. 5K Run/Walk and Fun Run: Runner's World, from Old Saybrook wants to help advertise the 2012 event.



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- e. Family Day/Fireworks: Kmetz reported that the fireworks company, Pyrotecnico who put on the display in 2011 will be contracted again to put on the display in 2012.
- f. Movies: Crosby reported that the next movie will probably be during February school vacation. Possibly on the 17th.
- g. Plattwood Park: No report.
- h. Devitt Field: Petroka reported that D. Smith will look into the drainage problem at the 'B' Field.
- i. Town Landing/Dock: Massey reported that the docks have been pulled out. Massey also wanted to follow up and see if the town crew picked up the used hoses that the fire department had offered the commission for use as protective edging on the docks.
- j. Brockway Ferry: No report.
- k. Easter Egg Hunt: No report. Looking for chairperson. Date set for 4/14/12.
- l. Fishing Derby: No report. Date set for May 12th 2012
- m. Halloween: No report.
- n. Holiday Stroll: No report.
- o. Basketball: Berardis voiced his frustration over frequent calls he has received from the custodial staff particularly at the elementary school regarding relatively small problems that have arisen from the basketball program. Jones reported on a meeting that was set up after this information came to light. The meeting was set up by First Selectman Dick Smith to address the concerns of all parties. In attendance were Jones, D. Smith, Pete Waz, Jack Petrick and Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent of Schools. Moving forward, Jones and D. Smith will receive all calls from the custodians regarding issues caused by the participants in the basketball program. After the basketball program concludes, Kmetz suggested that a meeting be held and a Basketball program committee be formed to offer assistant to Berardis in running the program in the future. Berardis received several kudos from all the commission members for the success of the program and the positive impact it has had on the youth of the three towns.
- p. Bus Trips: Jones has secured 50 tickets to a New Britain Rock Cats game on April 20th. It is Parks and Recreation Day. Other bus trips are still in the planning stages.
- q. Membership: Kmetz reiterated that membership is down so asked all members to recruit people to help fill the vacancies on the commission. The Commission welcomed new member, Don Sampson.
- r. Fundraising: Board discussed holding a used sports equipment sale. All opposed. No motion made



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Other Old Business:

Kmetz presented the slate of officers and took nominations from the floor for additional candidates. No other individuals stepped forward for nomination. By default, Kmetz agreed to remain as Chairperson if necessary. The slate of officers was presented as Chairperson: Janice Kmetz, Vice- Chairperson: Kevin Crosby, Treasurer: Miriam Morrissey and Secretary: Carol Jones. A motion was made by Lacoske to accept the slate of officers as presented. Petroka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Jones presented the 2012 Parks and Recreation pamphlet and asked committee chairpersons to review dates and to submit any changes to event descriptions or any additional information for inclusion to her via email as soon as possible.

Jones circulated signup sheets for all 2012 committee positions. There are still openings for committee chairmen for Brockway Ferry, Easter Egg Hunt and Bus Trips.

The meeting between the various groups that use Devitt Field on a regular basis such as Tri-Town Football, DR Little League, Girls Lacrosse and Men's Softball will be held at the beginning of February. Petroka asked to hold a small gathering prior to the larger meeting so that all participants from Parks and Recreation can agree on issues, such as fee schedule, prior to the larger gathering.

The dates for the 2012 meeting dates for Parks and Recreation have been set. See sheet attached.

New Business: No new business.

Berardis made a motion to adjourn. Morrissey seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 pm.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Wednesday, February 8th, 2012 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Jones, Acting Secretary & Director, Parks and Recreation