



# TOWN of DEEP RIVER

## Parks & Recreation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2012

Chairperson, Janice Kmetz, called the meeting of the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:35 pm on Wednesday, March 14th at Town Hall. Members present were, Kevin Crosby, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Sarah Kateley, Grace Petroka, Dave Berardis, Janice Kmetz, Cathy Smith, Miriam Morrissey, Don Sampson and Carol Jones. Those members absent were: Kelly Lacoske, Jason Mercer, Tania Crosby, Sarah Tullledge, Peter Woodcock Sr. and Tracy Woodcock.

**Audience of Citizens-** There were two. Mr. Iestyn Norton, a Boy Scout from Chester/Deep River Troop 13 presented his Eagle project idea to the board. Mr. Norton is proposing to build a snack shack for town use at Plattwood Park in Deep River. He met with the First Selectman (R. Smith) and had the idea approved. If the Commission approves his project, Norton needs to know where the Commission would like the building located and also the size that is desired. He proposed two sizes, 24' X 13' and 30' X12'. Norton would like the information before the next meeting. Norton plans to solicit donations for the project and expects to need assistance from the town for anything additional that is needed. R. Smith had told Norton that the town would pour the slab for the building. The project is due to begin this summer pending approval. Kmetz will set up a time to meet at Plattwood Park and will send out an e-mail to all members. Any members interested in contributing to the decision on building location should try to attend.

The second audience of citizens was Betsy Scholfield who has written a letter to the Board of Selectman to become a member of the Commission. Scholfield has not yet been appointed.

**Secretary's Report-** The motion to accept the secretary's report was made by C. Smith and seconded by Kateley. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report-** Morrissey presented the treasurer's report and stated that she was looking into the high water bill at Devitt Field. Crosby made the motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Massey. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Old Business-**

- a. Summer Concerts: Morrissey will set a date for a committee meeting prior to the end of March.
- b. Carnival: The dates of the carnival are June 14-17<sup>th</sup> 2012. Massey stated that local non-profit groups will be recruited to sell at the carnival. A committee meeting will be set up at the end of the month, prior to the next meeting. The idea of having a beer tent is still being investigated. Massey will call the liquor commission to obtain the cost of the permit and to discuss insurance needs.
- c. Summer Program: First round interviews have been completed. There were a total of seven applications received. Four individuals are being called in for a second interview. These have yet to be



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scheduled. Jones working on morning and afternoon programs. Letter to parents and registration materials should be out by the end of next week. Morrissey states that this summer will offer two afternoon workshops per week for the six week program.

- d. 5K Run/Walk and Fun Run: No report. Date is September 15<sup>th</sup> 2012.
- e. Family Day/Fireworks: No report. Date is September 15, 2012.
- f. Movies: Crosby reported that the March movie was never scheduled due to the fact that basketball was still going on. Committee plans to show three movies during the month of August.
- g. Plattwood Park: Some graffiti has been spray painted on two of the rocks close to the basketball hoop. Jones will meet with the security company to review footage from cameras located at Plattwood to see if the person/persons responsible can be identified. The primitive educational workshops are scheduled for Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup>. Jones will have the water turned on and have the port-o-let removed. VRHS Boys Lacrosse filed a park use application to use Plattwood Park for an end of year picnic event. A motion to waive the park usage fee was made by Petroka and seconded by Massey. Kmetz reported that the DR Garden Club will be doing a cleanup of the plants.
- h. Devitt Field: Since the last meeting of the Commission, the new park use rules and new park use forms for Devitt Field were completed and approved by all committee members and by First Selectman, D. Smith. The forms were then sent to all groups who have in the past used Devitt Field for the spring-early summer season. All groups were invited to attend tonight's meeting. No group representatives were in attendance.  
Some graffiti has been spray painted inside the pavilion and a swing is broken. Shrubs need to be cut back and some garbage needs to be picked up. Petroka will send out an e-mail to see if DRLL is interested in helping with a cleanup day. The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled at Devitt on March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- i. Town Landing/Dock: Jones reported that the outlook platform needs to be power washed and that one spindle from this area is broken. Also, a bench has been moved up near the rocks and railroad tracks. Massey mentioned that a local Brownie Troop will be doing some spring cleanup on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Question arose as to why the flag pole remains lite when currently no flag is on the pole. Jones to inquire about the whereabouts of flag. Massey to check with the harbor master, Mark Reyher, regarding the old fire hoses that were donated to be used as protective edging on the floating docks.  
An application to use the town landing overlook platform was received by the Parks and Recreation Office. The function is s wedding. The applicant states that the wedding will be short in duration and was hoping to have the fee waived. After a lengthy discussion, the commission voted not to waive the fee for park use.
- j. Brockway Ferry: No report.



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- k. Easter Egg Hunt: C. Smith and Kateley are the chairpersons. Meeting, at the home of Kateley on March 28<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of stuffing eggs, is scheduled for 6 pm. Kateley designed the flyer that will go out to the children at DRES. Three prize baskets will be made, one for each age group; preK-K, grade 1-3 and grade 4-6. The egg hunt will be held on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> @ Devitt Field. The date reported previously (April 14<sup>th</sup> 2012) was incorrect. Rain date is Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- l. Fishing Derby: Lacoske will once again chair this event. Jones and Lacoske are currently trying to get in touch with Harding Trout Farm who is supplying the fish. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 2012
- m. Halloween: No report.
- n. Holiday Stroll: No report.
- o. Basketball: The basketball season will end this weekend, March 17<sup>th</sup> with a tournament. It will begin Friday night at John Winthrop at 6:00 p.m. Play will continue until 9:00 pm and then resume Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. Berardis anticipates the tournament lasting until approximately 7:00 p.m. He asked commission members to volunteer to help as with so many teams playing and players' families in attendance there will be need for extra staff. A food collection is also planned as Berardis asked all players to bring donations of non-perishable food items for the local food pantry. Berardis ordered two trophies for the two overall winning teams of the tournament. Bruce Glowac, Region 4 school facilities manager, stated that the commission did not have to hire a state trooper to be present during the tournament this year. Last year, 2011, a trooper was required. (New member-yet confirmed), Scholfield volunteered to bring empty boxes to JW for the food collection. Scholfield also offered the commission a 10 X 10 storage unit that she owns to store all of the basketballs and other program supplies. Due to the lack of storage at Town Hall, the commission agreed to this generous offer. Berardis wants to order a protective net for the scoreboard at DRES. The protective net will cost approximately \$491.92 which includes shipping. A motion was made by Morrissey to approve the expenditure. The motion was seconded by Kateley. The motion carried unanimously. Looking ahead to next season, Berardis wants to expand the program to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. A committee for basketball will be formed in order to alleviate some of the burden from Berardis. Berardis agreed to chair new basketball committee. T. Woodcock will assist Berardis, and has joined the Commission specifically for this task.
- p. Bus Trips: Flyers have been made up for the two bus trips that have been planned. The two trips are to major league baseball games. The first trip is to a Boston Red Sox game on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> and the second bus trip is to a New York Yankee Game on Tuesday August 28<sup>th</sup>. The cost for the trips is \$62.00 per ticket for the Red Sox game and \$56.00 per ticket for the Yankee Game.



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- q. Membership: The commission has a new member, Tracy Woodcock. T. Woodcock was on Parks and Recreation previously and is a past chairperson. Welcome Tracy. Betsy Scholfield, in attendance as an audience of citizens, is awaiting her appointment by the Board of Selectman.
- r. Fundraising: No report.

#### **Other Old Business:**

Jones has made up posters/flyers to advertise upcoming programs. The 8 hour safe boating course will be held on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at the DR library. It will be taught by Pro-marine Education. The class scheduled for early March was cancelled due to low enrollment. Professional photographer Steve Nadler will conduct a six week, basic photography class, beginning on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The class will meet once a week on Thursdays in the community room at the library. Two educational workshops on primitive skills will be taught at Plattwood Park on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. The two workshops are flint and steel fire starting and tomahawk throwing. The courses are being offered by resident, Pat Mule. No report on the yoga classes and volleyball clinic.

Jones will send out committee sign-up sheets and contact info for all members. Kmetz asks all members to review the committee sign-up sheets and consider joining another committee.

#### **New Business:**

Kmetz will hand out the 2012 Parks and Recreation pamphlet to the merchants. The merchants had offered to have them out in their store/businesses.

Petroka made a motion to adjourn. Sampson seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm.

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission is Wednesday, April 11th, 2012 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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