



TOWN of DEEP RIVER

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2013

Chairperson, Tracy Woodcock, called the meeting of the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 7:34 pm on Wednesday, April 10th. Members present were, Tracy Woodcock, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Elizabeth Scholfield, Carol Jones, Grace Petroka, Janice Kmetz, Kevin Crosby and Miriam Morrissey. First Selectman, Richard Smith, also attended the meeting. Members absent from this meeting were Stephani Award, Cathy Smith, Dave Berardis, Sarah Kateley, Don Sampson, Kelley Lacoske and Tania Crosby.

Audience of Citizens: Mark Grabowski and Tom Allen from Deep River Little League attended the meeting to present Parks and Recreation the idea of putting a press box at Devitt Field. This would allow players' names to be announced before games as well as allowing person or persons controlling the scoreboard and score keeping sheets better view of the field. D. Smith suggested making the building be two stories as Little League could use the bottom portion for storage of baseball equipment and field maintenance tools. He also suggested dimensions being 18 ft by 10 ft with a 4 ft to 5 ft walkway between the backstop and the building. Woodcock suggested adding an addition vertically to the newly renovated snack shack as Tri-Town Football would be able to use the press box as well. Grabowski noted that it would be difficult to call a football game from a field goal if the play is at the opposite side of the field. D. Smith suggested building a better retaining wall behind the backstop, possibly using the building to cut into the bank and create a walkway level with the parking lot. Grabowski will come back to the board with plans and a sketch of what the building could look like. Jones also noted there is a former list of renovations to be made by Park and Rec before this project as in a new playground for Devitt field, a splash pad and snack shack for Plattwood Park.

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

Treasurer's Report: Morrissey started a discussion on recent expenses. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Crosby and seconded by Petroka. This motion was also passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- A. Summer Concerts: Massey and Morrissey reported the bands and dates have been set for the summer concert series. Jones reported that Chris' Hotdogs will not be able to serve food for the concerts as they have been requested to be at another location. Massey will be contacting local restaurants and food vendors to sell food and drinks during concerts.



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- B. Carnival: Massey reported she will be contacting the fire and building inspectors again to advise of upcoming carnival. Massey also noted electrical must be run for the bands to perform. Massey also reported everything is planned and ready for the first of June, when tickets will start to go on sale at the town hall.
- C. Summer Program: Jones reported after sending out registration forms the response has been slow with only a few campers signed up and all of them doing morning session. Morrissey noted she received an email sharing information on summer camps for Chester and Essex elementary schools as well as Deep River. Jones noted that she was informed that DRES will be used by the summer school program as it is more centrally located and the Junior High will no longer accommodate all of the summer school students.
- D. 5-K Run: Crosby reported the run will be held on Sept 21st. and on the pre-registration form the option of fun run participants to order tee-shirts for an additional \$7.00.
- E. Family Day and Fireworks: No Report
- F. Movies: Massey reported movies will be held on the 2nd, 9th and 16th of August. The movies suggested by Massey are The Odd Life of Timothy Green, Peter Pan, The Creature of the Black Lagoon, and ET. Jones noted use of the town hall may be available instead of rain dates it would just change location of the movie to the auditorium of the town hall.
- G. Plattwood Park: Jones reported the dog carnival will take place on Saturday, June 15th. The dog carnival is fully insured and will be setting up the night before event. Jones contacted Hungry Hals and they are interested in serving food. Misfit cruisers has put out their advertising and excited to continuing using Plattwood Park as their location. Jones reported the new basketball nets were put up on the day of the meeting, April 10th, and the new signs will be installed soon. Jones presented a new mailbox that will be used for “doggy waste bags”.
- H. Devitt Field: Jones reported the newly renovated bathrooms will be finished soon.
- I. Town Landing/Dock: Massey reported there will be a clean-up day on April 20th at 9 a.m. Jones reported local Boy Scout Troop 13 will be there to help along with divers from Diver’s Cove cleaning up the water as well. Massey noted the wall around the portable bathroom had been ruined from the storm and was never replaced as well as a sign next to the train tracks welcoming all to the Landing.
- J. Brockway Ferry: Jones reported there is a local Leo Club (Lions Club youth group) that might be willing to assist in the clean-up this spring.
- K. Easter Egg Hunt: Scholfield reported the event was successful and everyone had a great time.



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- L. Fishing Derby: Lacoske reported via email, that a message has been left with the Harding Trout Farm for a “fish count” and to set up a delivery date for the fish. Lacoske also noted she will be ordering donuts and coffee as well as hot chocolate, juice and water for the morning of the derby. Lacoske requested to have the guard booth open to make registration easier and to be closer to the kids fishing.
- M. Halloween: Nothing reported.
- N. Holiday Stroll: Nothing reported.
- O. Basketball: Jones reported the program was successful and that the on-line survey tool that was used this year resulted in approximately a 30% of the surveys being returned. This is a huge improvement over previous years where a paper survey was utilized. One reason is most likely because it can be submitted anonymously. The results of the survey have been mostly good and the negative comments offer some welcomed constructive criticism to help better the program.
- P. Bus Trips: Jones reported the tickets for the two major league baseball games have been selling well. Jones reported that there are less than 20 tickets left. Jones also requested a quote from the bus company for the trip to the Newport Vineyard for wine tasting.
- Q. Membership: There are open positions on the commission.
- R. Fundraising: Nothing reported.

Other old business: Jones noted that after the request went out, many donations to the food pantry were received at the basketball tournament.

New Business: Jones reported that a holding a golf clinic as well as a skateboard camp is being looked into.

Next meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8th, at 7:30 pm

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:13 pm by Schofield and seconded by Massey.

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Woodcock, Recording Secretary
Deep River Parks and Recreation