



# TOWN of DEEP RIVER

## Parks & Recreation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

November 12th, 2014

Meeting called to order by Chairperson, Tracy Woodcock at 7:40 pm on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at Deep River Town Hall. Members present were: Miriam Morrissey, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Justin Waz, Betsy Scholfield, Sarah Kateley, Carol Jones, Jane Moen, Stephanie Award and Grace Petroka. Members absent were: Kevin Crosby, Tania Crosby, Don Sampson, Dave Berardis, Cathy Smith, and Jimmy Cunningham.

Audience of Citizens – There were two- Karen Newman and Leslie Sheehan.

Secretary's Report – Motion made to accept the secretary's report by Morrissey; 2nd by Massey. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Morrissey presented report detailing month's expenditures; no large expenditures this month. A motion was made by Award to accept; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Moen. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Old Business:

- a. Summer concerts – No report.
- b. Carnival –No report.
- c. Summer program – No report.
- d. 5-K Run - No report
- e. Family day and fireworks – No report
- f. Movies – Using the portable screen by attaching it to the pergolas was reported to work well so the committee decided not to purchase new inflatable screen.
- g. Plattwood Park –Water has been shut off.
- h. Devitt Field – Water has been shut off.
- i. Town Landing – Replacement of decking on the fishing pier is ongoing. Morrissey volunteered to visit the building department to see if the Commission can learn more details about the original construction of the fishing pier.
- j. Brockway Ferry – Award stated that Charles Burdick had cut down the area at the end of the summer season.
- k. Easter Egg Hunt – No report.
- l. Fishing Derby – No report.
- m. Halloween Party – The event went well. Estimated to be largest turn out ever. Scholfield stated that they ran out of goodie bags and that the PTO from DRES was pleased with the number of children that had participated. Need to work on the timing between events. The magician was



# TOWN of DEEP RIVER

## Parks & Recreation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

November 12th, 2014

very entertaining and the auditorium was very full. The costume parade was enjoyed by dozens of children but needs to be more organized next year. The carved jack o lantern contest had only approximately 20 entries. The haunted house was a huge success and was enjoyed by hundreds. The Commission will send a thank you note to the Griffin family who staged the haunted basement. As a thank you gift, the Commission voted to offer them three free tickets to a bus trip that the Commission is offering in 2015. Four plus boxes of food was collected at the door and brought to the food closet the next day. It was agreed that the article in the Valley Courier newspaper regarding our event certainly helped get the word out. Perhaps we stop holding the pumpkin carving contest?

- n. Holiday Stroll – The stroll will be on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. A free holiday concert featuring the Old Lyme Town Band will take place on Friday evening. The posters for the event are completed. Event will feature movies in the auditorium, DRES chorus, Santa’s arrival as well as the gingerbread house contest and the horse and carriage rides. The route will once again go northwest out of Veterans Way, left on Elm, left on Union. At Main, the carriage will turn left and will stop at the Stone House. The carriage will then head north on Main Street and take a left onto Veterans Way. The committee will again offer hot chocolate and members will supply the cookies with the help of the DRES baking committee.
- o. Basketball program –The committee met prior to the Commission meeting and set the practice schedule. The 1-6 grade teams will begin practice next week, November 17<sup>th</sup> and the draft of players will take place on Monday evening, November 17<sup>th</sup> at the DR ambulance barn. Practices for grades 7-12 will begin on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. Games will begin the first weekend of January 2015 for all grade levels.
- p. Bus Trips – The bus trip committee met and set dates and approximate itineraries for all trips in calendar year 2015. The Commission will vote on a new policy which will be written to address the issue of inclement weather and a ‘no refund’ policy. The Commission voted to allow ‘two organizers (Parks and Rec point persons) to attend each trip for free. No other trips will be planned for 2014.
- q. Membership – Two Deep River residents, Karen Dexter and Leslie Sheehan are in attendance; they are planning on joining the Commission. Brandon Woodcock is also planning on joining. There are still vacancies on the Commission.
- r. Enrichment Program –Scholfield reported that the enrollment in the enrichment courses is low but the children in attendance are enjoying themselves. There are two more weeks left. She stated that if DRES has budgeted monies for and are offering enrichment courses, that Parks and Recreation will consider ending our involvement in the planning of the courses. The theater



# TOWN of DEEP RIVER

## Parks & Recreation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

November 12th, 2014

program will have try outs on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The play will take place on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. The show is "Alice at Wonderland".

- s. Fundraising: No report

Other Old Business: The basketball clinic that the Commission sponsored with former pro player, Donny Marshall was enjoyed by all in attendance. It was held on October 26, 2014 at John Winthrop. The cost was \$30.00 per participant.

New Business and/or New Programs: Moen suggested forming a subcommittee to decide what the Commission would like to see offered at the parks in town especially during the summer months. Examples are an ice cream truck, or a hot dog vendor, etc. That way, the Commission can be pro-active when an individual approaches the board to get permission to sell at a town park.

Betsey Munsell has offered to teach a sign language class. More information will be gathered but the Commission seemed very interested in this idea.

Jones received information about a lacrosse camp for youth. More information will be reported at a later meeting.

Motion made by Petroka and seconded by Massey to adjourn at 8:51 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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