



Town of Deep River

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2015

The meeting of the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Justin Waz at 7:07 pm, on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at the Deep River Town Hall. Members present were: Sarah Kateley, Brandon Woodcock, Karen Dexter, Leslie Sheehan, Miriam Morrissey, Grace Petroka, Betsy Scholfield and Stephani Award. Members absent were: Tania Crosby, Cathy Smith, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Jane Moen, Don Simpson, Dave Berardis, Jimmy Cunningham and Kevin Crosby. Carol Jone, Director, was also present.

Audience of Citizens- Maureen Douglas and Mark Grobowski representatives of Deep River Little League. DRLL needs to change the model number of the scoreboard as it will have additional features. DRLL to get back to Commission with correct model number. DRLL would like to include advertising availability (1' x 8') to the scoreboard which would increase overall size of board. The commission is concerned with type of advertising allowed, placement of advertising and length of time advertising is allowed to remain in place. The commission would also like to see "Devitt Field" on the top of the scoreboard and "Deep River, Connecticut" placed on the advertising space vacated when the DRLL season is over. The commission discussed using magnetic signs to be placed in this space for duration of DRLL season. DRLL mentioned an additional cost of \$300.00 associated with this increased signage and wants to know what organization would be responsible for the fee. Mark Grobowski also talked about the poor condition of the fields at Devitt Field and he wanted clarification on what organization is responsible for their upkeep. He mentioned fields A & B needing fertilizer and he wanted to know if costs could be shared between Deep River Little League, Tri-Town Football and Parks and Recreation. Grobowski thinks 3 treatments of fertilizer are necessary for the fields. Grobowski also wants to know what organization is responsible for removing the goalposts and scoreboard currently located at Devitt Field as the current football program is closing.

Audience of Citizens- Angus MacDonald and Andrea Issacs representatives of The Lace Factory and as neighbors of the Deep River Town Landing. They have expressed their concern about the admittance of Simon's to the Town Landing in Deep River. They are very concerned about the

lack of parking, the effect of additional patronage on local parking, the ability of the gate guards to effectively monitor parking, especially The Lace Factory's allotment of two parking spots during their events. MacDonald and Issacs are concerned that the neighbors were not properly vetted as to their opinions regarding the addition of Simon's to the Town Landing. MacDonald and Issacs presented photographs to the Commission documenting the current parking conditions at the Landing. The Commission recognized all concerns presented by MacDonald and Issacs and had previously made a decision to monitor all activity at the Landing. MacDonald and Issacs will continue to monitor the parking at the Landing and will email Carol Jones with additional photographs throughout the summer months.

Audience of Citizens- Heidi Ramcke representative of the Nicholas Ramcke Memorial Skate Contest. Ramcke reviewed with the Commission the date, August 1, 2015, time 10:00am -4:00 pm and approximate expected amount of people for this event (approximately 150 people). She discussed requirements regarding the hiring of a constable and additional lifeguards as well as tent permits, advertising, parking and donations. Commission discussed whether additional lifeguards were necessary due to additional amount of people. Ramcke discussed final advertising setup for Commission to vote on. Ramcke presented waiver and application to the Commission. Jones asked for Certificate of Insurance. Ramcke to contact Building Department regarding tent permit. Portable bathrooms donated by Olsen Sanitation. Placement of tent due to field construction and liability of damage to tent, not the responsibility of the Commission. Jones mentioned potential conflict with tent set-up and Movie Night at Plattwood Park.

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

Treasurer's Report- A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Schofield and seconded by Sheehan. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- a. Enrichment Programs- Schofield reported the Coding Class was full, the Lego class was full. Schofield wants to check into offering Lego Robotics as part of the enrichment program. Petroka will check the current program at Valley High School for information. A motion was made by Schofield for a stipend to be paid to Acacia Bowden for Bowden's

- b. out-of-pocket expenses. A motion to accept was made by Morrissey and seconded by Waz. Jones to put in a voucher for Bowden.
- c. Fishing Derby- Very successful. Waz measured fish, Dick Smith presented plaque to Stebbins family, Fishing Committee presented flowers to the Stebbins' daughters. At the request of the family, the fishing derby name will revert to the Deep River Fishing Derby. Commission discussed opening up Derby to the towns of Chester and Essex and including "invitational" to the current name.
- d. Summer Concerts: Massey to have all food vendors and Morrissey to proof advertising.
- e. Carnival- Schofield presented banner proof. Banner dimensions are 4'x25'. Jones to get Dick Smith to write letter to DOT for approval to hang sign over State road. Banner will be hung in time for carnival. Massey to discuss Carnival plans at next meeting.
- f. Summer Program: Morrissey to set schedule for counselors. Jones to put together the camp summer program. Enrollment discussed. Massey not present to discuss program. Award stated Massey would like to be included in any decisions made regarding summer program especially the hiring of counselors and CITs.
- g. Bus Trips: Sheehan presented tentative schedule for 2015-2016 season. Sheehan stated The Lion King was a very successful bus trip. Jones discussed advertising and web-site. Advertising needs to include price of ticket and web site needs to have price of ticket more easily identifiable.
- h. Basketball Program: Need to increase application fee due to the need to hire certified referees. Consider compensation or a paid position for Brandon Woodcock due to his many volunteer hours spent helping the basketball program.
- i. Devitt Field: The Commission voted to approve the addition of advertising to the DRLL scoreboard. A motion was made by Schofield and seconded by Sheehan. The sign is not to exceed 1' x 8' and the advertising placed on the sign must be temporary. The Commission suggested using magnetic signs. The advertising is amended to be displayed from April 1- through June 30. The top is to say "Devitt Field" in colors already approved. DRLL is to pay the \$300.00 for the additional advertising sign. Commission will discuss field upkeep with DRLL. The playscape has been ordered. Volunteers will need to be recruited to help set up playscape. Jones to contact playscape company and decide how many volunteers will be needed. Jones talked about hiring contractor from playscape company to assist is playscape set up. Jones needs to get additional cost associated with this. Petroka and Woodcock to be present at Devitt's Field for Community Day on May 19.
- j. Town Landing: Community Day, May 19. Moen to be present to instruct Valley Regional Volunteers on clean up.
- k. Plattwood Park: A motion was made to approve advertising for the Ramke fundraiser by Dexter and seconded by Woodcock. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission has decided to keep lifeguard requirements in place. Due to number of

expected attendees, Ramke will have to find an additional two lifeguards. Morrissey will be present at Plattwood Park for Community Day.

- l. Brockway Ferry: Schofield to be present for Community Day. Charles Burdick is expected to brush hog area before May 19th so volunteers will have clean up to do.
- m. Movies: Jones needs help choosing movies. Dexter will help Jones. Chairperson still needed.
- n. Family Day and Fire Works: No new Report.
- o. 5-K Run: No new report.
- p. Membership: New Member Christie Stroud
- q. Fundraising: No new report.

Other Old Business-Canfield Woods and Keyboard Pond Park still need to be Chaired.

New Business: New Member- Christie Stroud.

Next meeting for the Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Morrissey made a motion to adjourn at 9:15pm seconded by Waz. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephani Award, Secretary
Deep River Parks and Recreation