



# Town of Deep River

Parks and Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2015

The meeting of the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by member Betsy Scholfield at 7:04 pm on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at the Deep River Town Hall. Members present were : James Beardsley, Karen Dexter, Sarah Kateley, Miriam Morrissey, Betsy Scholfield, Leslie Sheehan, Christie Stroud and Stephani Award. Members absent were: Dave Berardis, Kevin Crosby, Tania Crosby, Jim Cunningham, Mary-Elizabeth Massey, Don Simpson and Justin Waz. Carol Jones, Director, was also present.

Audience of Citizens- Ed Burleson and Nancy Pilon, Valley Youth Football and Cheer. Mr. Burleson requested the use of Devitt's Field for youth football practice 1-2 nights per week during the football season. Valley Youth Football currently practices in Clinton, Connecticut, 4 nights per week. Mr. Burleson would like to share practice fields with other towns. He approached the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission first for the following: 1. There is an established relationship between Valley Youth Football and Deep River and 2. Devitt's Field has goal posts, which affords the team kicking time. Valley Youth Football has approximately twenty youths comprised from the following towns: Chester, Clinton, Deep River and Essex. Burleson would like to use Devitt's Field consistently 2 nights per week during the football season. Cheer practice is at the same time as football practice and they would need the use of the field as well. Burleson stated that the field would not be used for games. It would only be used for practices. Jones stated that if Valley Youth Football's proposal was accepted, Fall Little League would take precedence over which field would be available for football practice. The "Shack" would not be open during the practices. Burleson requested the use of the

field as soon as possible. Jones mentioned the need for a properly filled out application packet as well as approval from the Commission. This packet is to include a roster of football players and cheerleaders as well as appropriate insurance coverage. Valley Youth Football and Cheer would be required to submit an application fee for Non Deep River youth. Practice would start immediately and would end the first week of November, 2015; unless Valley Youth Football made it into the playoffs. At such time, practice at Devitt's Field would continue until the middle of November, 2015.

Burleson stated he would like to see the Valley Youth Football Program move forward and he would like to keep a viable relationship with the Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission. He would like to see the Valley Football Program evolve into a Program similar to the current Parks and Recreation Basketball Program.

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

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

#### Old Business:

- a. Carnival-Scholfield said the Carnival Committee is interested in reaching more towns and would direct their energy in that direction for next year.
- b. Concerts- Morrissey stated they are going well.
- c. Bus Trips- Sheehan stated they are very successful and the committee has gotten lots of positive feedback and suggestions for future trips. Jones stated that she has Boston Red Sox tickets available. She has been selling some tickets on "Stubhub" to try and recoup their cost, due to that bus trip, scheduled for August 23, 2015, has been cancelled.
- d. Summer Program- Jones stated the Program was very successful. Each week was filled to capacity (60). Staff was enthusiastic. Jones suggested the Commission review extending Summer Camp next year from 6 to 8 weeks.
- e. Movies-Dexter stated Movie night has been going well and the movie choices seem to have been well received.
- f. 5-K Run/Walk-Jones discussed advertising and the need for Sponsors. Jones to create sponsor form and letter. Run is scheduled for September 19, 2015. Commission discussed participant registration, current race route and the responsibilities of the Volunteers.
- g. Family Day and Fireworks-Jones to order merchandise to sell.

- h. Devitt Field-Playscape has not been ordered, although the sale price has been locked in. Commission is waiting on coordination between the Deep River Town Crew and the Playscape Engineer. Footprint to be maintained. Current surface material to be re-used.
- i. Town Landing- Commission has received positive feedback regarding Simons. Simons has established new hours: 11:00am -6:00pm Monday thru Thursday and 11:00am-8:00pm Friday thru Sunday.
- j. Plattwood Park- Commission still needs to put up Park Usage signs. Some discussion on making signs bilingual. Commission discussed Park Reservations and how to enforce them, establishing season passes and Park cleanup. Commission tabled discussion for next meeting.
- k. Brockway Ferry-No report.
- l. Enrichment Programs- Morrissey stated there will be a Fall play. Morrissey stated need for an Assistant Director.
- m. Basketball Program-No report.
- n. Halloween-Parade and event will be held Friday, October 30, 2015.
- o. Holiday Stroll-Scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2015.
- p. Membership-Jane Moen and Cathy Smith have resigned from the Commission.
- q. Fundraising-Beardsley suggested using paper placemats, as seen at a local business, to advertise Programs and Events sponsored by the Commission.

Old Business-No report.

New Business- Beardsley made a motion to accept the Valley Youth Football proposal seconded by Sheehan. Once the application and payment have been received, the Commission agreed to practices 2 times per week throughout the fall season; with practice days to be established pending the Little League schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

Morrissey makes a motion to adjourn at 9:10 pm seconded by Scholfield. Motion passed unanimously.

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

