

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
Parks & Recreation Commission
August 12, 2014
MINUTES

Call to Order

6:00pm: K. Heckman called the meeting to order

Present: Amy Harrington, Ken Heckman, Ernie Robert, and Melissa Robertson Members

Excused: Jeff Shute, Chairman; Julie DeCosta and Jack Hutchinson, Members

Also Present: Joe Manzi, Parks & Recreation Director; Traci Moorcroft, OHD Road Race Director

Minutes of July 2014

Motion: M. Robertson moves the minutes as written

Second: E. Robert

Vote: Yea 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Citizens Comments None

Old Home Day

T. Moorcroft provided the Commission with an update on plans for the Road Race. She described the awards, breakdown of the age groups competing and gave a general idea of how the event will flow. She will have a clock on hand so that participants can have a general sense of their finishing time, but there will no official timing for the race. Resident Jen Prentice has agreed to assist Traci at the finish line, but there is still a need for two or three additional volunteers, especially if the turnout is high. A. Harrington volunteered to help. M. Robertson confirmed that she will put together a poster with pictures from previous Old Home Day Road Races. T. Moorcroft asked that volunteers be on hand for 7:30a to set up as registration opens at 8a. J. Manzi will ensure the following is at the Town Hall for Saturday morning: an easel, water, registration forms, fruit, finish line ribbon, music, an air horn, tables, chairs and trash barrel. E. Robert asked whether information had been placed in the FORUM. J. Manzi will resend this week so that it is refreshed to the top of their online edition.

J. Manzi went over the schedule of events for Saturday, beginning with the Town Breakfast at the Fire Station. The Commission agreed that they will try to gather for breakfast together again at 7a as a good way to kick off the day. Parade line up will be at DCS for the larger trucks and floats and at the Legion for the smaller participants. He expects several politicians and noted that Little Miss Deerfield Fair and Little Miss Hampton Beach will be in attendance for the event. The timeline and staff for chicken preparation, cooking and serving was reviewed. Andy Robertson will take the lead on this, K. Heckman and family will be on hand to help along with John Harrington, E. Robert. J. Manzi will speak with Mark Young about using the Highway Departments pressure washer to make cleaning of the racks easier. Pit construction will be done ahead of time on Friday evening.

Soil Test Update

K. Heckman reviewed the results of the soil tests done on Bicentennial and Hartford Brook fields. Generally Bicentennial looked to be in good shape, the recommendation is to add fertilizer to increase the potassium levels there. At Hartford Brook nutrient levels were low, the soil was acidic and the essential mineral levels were low. The recommendation was to add limestone to raise the pH levels, to top dress the field annually and to use compost to improve the mineral levels. The results provide the Commission with a good baseline and can be used to better formulate a go forward plan for the fields. J. Manzi spoke on the significant erosion problems being battled at Bicentennial Field and the Commission agreed that improvement of the fields should be a key component to the Department's 5 year Capital Improvement Plan.

2015 Budget Update

J. Manzi spoke that the initial budget was provided to the Town Administrator and subsequently Board of Selectmen. Two minor additions were included, \$1,950 for Gazebo Field and Playground Maintenance costs and \$2,000 for Old Home Day expenses. The expectation is that these amounts could be applied directly to the cost of

the chip replacement at the Gazebo Playground and the fireworks display at Old Home Days. Boundaries for the playground have been provided by Dick Pitman, but need to be put in place. E. Robert felt that they would need some sort of anchor to hold the materials in place and the Commission agreed. J. Manzi thought that he may be able to engage a local Civilian Contractor who has been volunteering for the Department to help with installation, but if not a community work day may be in order.

Other Business

J. Manzi spoke that this week's "What's Happening Deerfield" is all about Old Home Day and that the piece should be uploaded for public viewing shortly.

Adjournment

Motion: M. Robertson moves to adjourn the meeting of August 2014

Second: E. Robert

All in Favor – Motion Carries – Meeting Adjourns at 7:15p

Next Meeting Tuesday, September 9th @ 6:00pm

*The Minutes were Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by Katherine A. Libby, Recording Secretary.
Pending Approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission*