

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
Parks & Recreation Commission
July 8, 2014
MINUTES

Call to Order

8:10pm: J. Shute called the meeting to order

Present: Jeff Shute, Chairman; Julie DeCosta, Ken Heckman and Jack Hutchinson and Ernie Robert, Members

Excused: Amy Harrington and Melissa Robertson Members

Also Present: Joe Manzi, Parks & Recreation Director

Minutes of June 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

J. Manzy updated that the Old Home Day posters have been printed and he has begun to distribute them at the key spots around Town. He has spoken with Mark Tibbetts and learned that the Women's Club will plan to have a float in the parade along with at least one private citizen. Mark also expects there to be old army trucks participating and for there to be a large political candidate presence. It has been suggested that Jeanette Winslow, the Town's oldest citizen, may be interested in serving as the Grand Marshall.

Jan Foisy has informed Joe that there is currently \$1,120 in an escrow account earmarked for Old Home Days that the office is interested in cleaning out. The Commission asked that Joe speak with the Selectman to request those funds be released for payment of the Fireworks bill. The solicitation of local businesses for support of the Fireworks has yielded two donations thus far, one for \$250 and second for \$100. Chairman Shute will check with his daughter on the finalizing of a logo for the t shirts and will move forward with ordering posers for the Road Race. Joe has been approached by someone with the Union Leader asking if they could set up a table for subscription sales at Old Home Day. The Commission agreed that the activity doesn't feel like a good fit and that Old Home Day is not really a sales environment.

Equipment & Improvements Update

J. Manzi updated the Commission that the safety chips for the playground will be delivered tomorrow, Wednesday, July 9th and that he will be working with Mark Young to have them dispersed in time for Family Night on Friday. Chairman Shute spoke that he researched the landscape timbers as a retaining alternative for the chips. A timber 4"x 4"x8' costs \$5 and seems to be a much cheaper alternative to the quote received by Parks & Rec. Members of the Commission will look at the area on Friday to determine how many will be needed.

The hitch has been installed on the Department's van and the trailer is expected to arrive this week.

Parks & Recreation Department Updates

Family Fun Night will be on Friday, July 11th. Local band Blue Matter will be performing and J. Manzi will be coordinating Food and Sundaes. Jeff, Ken, Ernie and Jack will be on hand to help with front of house roles and the new Police Chief Gary Duquette will be attending to meet members of the Community.

The Hartford Brook soil test has been mailed off and J. Manzi is waiting to hear back from UNH.

250th Anniversary Celebration

J. Hutchinson spoke that the 250th Committee is working on securing individuals to take on various aspects of the planning. Thus far the group is very interested in keeping vendors local and not necessarily hiring an outside

entertainment, for example a Carnival company.

There has been some talk of raising a building during the celebration. Specifically, past resident Bill O'Neal left money to the Historical Society, and individuals have been discussing how his gift might be used to erect a Museum at the Fairgrounds. J. Hutchinson provided that Bill was the brother of Paul O'Neal, uncle to Alan O'Neal. He was well known for his necessitations of poetry and his fantastic personality. Upon his passing, some twelve years ago, he left significant donations to the Fire Department, Rescue Squad and Historical Society.

2015 Budget

J. Manzi reminded that the Town Administrator has requested that budgets be submitted this week. Chairman Shute feels including lines for the maintenance costs at the Gazebo and playground, as well as Old Home Day are the top priorities. The Commission agreed, Joe will look to compile information on what has been spent in those areas over the last years to develop a justification for the amount put into the budget. There is an Escrow Account with funds set aside for upkeep of the gazebo, Mark Tibbetts is looking into organizing new paint and some other repairs of the space.

Playground Maintenance Update

Solicitation letters were mailed to the Deerfield Co-Operative Pre School and FOCUS requesting financial support towards the \$1,900 expense of safety chips at the playground. J. Manzi expects to be receiving a check from the Pre School for approximately \$400 and has not received a response from FOCUS.

Adjournment

Motion: K. Heckman moves to adjourn the meeting of July 2014

Second: E. Robert

All in Favor – Motion Carries – Meeting Adjourns at 8:45p

Next Meeting Tuesday, August 12th @ 6:00pm

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