

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD**  
**Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**April 5, 2016**  
MINUTES

**Call to Order**

6:00pm: Chairman Shute called the meeting to order

**Present:** Jeff Shute, Chairman; Julie DeCosta, Amy Harrington, Brian Layton, Ernie Robert and Melissa Robertson, Members

**Excused:** Ken Heckman and Jack Hutchinson, Members

**Also Present:** Joe Manzi, Parks & Recreation Director

**Minutes of March 2016**

**Motion:** M. Robertson moves the minutes as written

**Second:** E. Robert

**Vote to approve: Yea 4\*, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries**

*Members A. Harrington and B. Layton were not present at the time of this vote*

**Citizens Comments**

None

**Hartford Brook Update**

J. Manzi shared the developments to date at the field. The Little League infield has been laid out, underground plumbing has been permitted, installed and inspected. Three quotes were received for the upgraded pump, well and tank and the work will be done for a cost of \$8,200. The trench has been dug for the water service line and tomorrow J. Manzi will be meeting with several people at the field to look at fencing needs. There is a potential that fencing donated as part of the 250th Anniversary Celebration for the Old Time Baseball game could be temporarily installed at the Fairgrounds and then re-located to Hartford Brook for permanent use.

Chairman Shute reminded the Commission that any money spent out of funds appropriated by Warrant Article require three bids and the Select Board's approval. The \$8,200 to install the well can come from the private donation. J. Manzi spoke that he wants to ensure there is a solid plan for supervision of the facility while it is under construction. Safety is a concern, as well as the fact that wayward pedestrian traffic could negatively impact the work in progress. E. Robert noted that a lot of the time for work on the project has been donated and that more volunteer time can continue as long as the needs are communicated ahead of time in a proactive way. He offered his services for the wiring of the Concession Building. The next steps will be to get the infield cut and one field prepped for a targeted gameplay date of 2017. The space will be used as a practice facility during the 2016 season and use for soccer and football in the fall will depend on the condition of the turf.

**Deerfield 250th Anniversary Celebration**

E. Robert spoke that the next 250th event will take place April 16th with the Town Wide Clean Up and Chile/Chowder feed. There is an online volunteer signup with some slots still needing to be filled. It was suggested the Commission participate in the clean up as a group wearing Parks & Recreation t shirts.

J. DeCosta met with Jack Hutchinson recently to discuss the 5K road race scheduled to take place Sunday July 17th. There is concern that the volume of people arriving at the Fairgrounds might make the course unsafe for runners trying to navigate the grounds. The second event of the day will be a Church Service beginning at 10a with the majority of the schedule kicking off at 11a. Alternatives for the 5K were brainstormed including moving the race start time up to 8a or shortening the distance. J. DeCosta hopes to have feedback from the professional parking group that will be directing traffic. The timing company has been booked for the race and she has begun to look at

Registration fees. The plan for T Shirts is for artwork to come from DCS student submissions J. DeCosta will form a sub-committee to look closer at the event and its logistics.

E. Robert asked whether the Deerfield Sports Hall of Fame might be another event that could be held in coordination with the 250th events. J. Manzi shared concern that it may lose significance if rolled into the other 250th events, but it was noted that such a presentation might tie in nicely with the Little League Alumni Game planned. J. Manzi and E. Robert will discuss the idea further offline.

J. Manzi will be working on developing the Mush Ball and Adult Obstacle Course activities. J. DeCosta reported that the turnout for talent at the Variety Show was strong.

#### **Joe Stone Scholarship**

No applications have been received just yet, the deadline for submission is April 29th. J. DeCosta suggested that if more fundraising is needed that perhaps a commemorative glass could be sold during the 250th with sales to benefit the scholarship fund. It was suggested that perhaps that sort of item might be sold during the Coffee House so as not to further stretch resources during the 250th. The idea will be discussed further.

#### **Deerfield Hoops Classic Recap**

J. Manzi reported that the Tournament went very well and thanked everyone from the Commission who volunteered. This was the first year where the concessions were a fundraiser for the 8th grade class and he felt that it went well. He will be meeting with the group to evaluate how the arrangement worked. Behavior both on and off the court was great. Financially there are staffing costs left to be reconciled, but J. Manzi reported \$10,725 in revenue, with approximately \$7,900 in expenses yielding roughly \$2,500 - \$2,700 in profit. The event had \$400 in sponsorships from Yannis and Cummings Printing and the 3-Point Shot Competition yielded almost \$1,000. J. Manzi spoke that the Commission may want to consider using the Tournament next year as a fundraiser for the Joe Stone Scholarship. This year the Deerfield team entries were not charged admission, that policy will likely change next year.

The Commission thanked Joe for a job well done. J. DeCosta shared feedback that several teams seemed to be looking for the larger wall bracket. M. Robertson shared feedback she heard while volunteering. She heard that the music and atmosphere were great and that the kids love having their names announced.

#### **Other Program Updates** None

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** M. Robertson moves to adjourn the meeting of April 2016

**Second:** E. Robert

**All in Favor – Motion Carries – Meeting Adjourned at 7:05p**

**Next Meeting Tuesday, May 3rd @ 6:00pm**

*The Minutes were Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by Katherine A. Libby, Recording Secretary.*

*Pending Approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission*