

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
Parks & Recreation Commission
June 22, 2016
MINUTES

Call to Order

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

Present: Jeff Shute, Chairman; Amy Harrington, Ernie Robert, Jack Hutchinson, and Melissa Robertson, Members

Excused: Julie DeCosta, Ken Heckman, and Brian Layton, Members

Also Present: Joe Manzi, Parks & Recreation Director

Minutes of May 2016

Motion: E. Robert moves the minutes as written

Second: M. Robertson

Vote to approve: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 – Motion Carries

Citizens Comments

None

Hartford Brook Update

J. Manzi updated that he has met with Bill Gagas, Program Expert with the State, regarding the Grant Opportunity for work at Hartford Brook. Mr. Gagas was impressed with the progress at the field and J. Manzi will hear more at the end of July. It was recommended the Grant be pursued for work at both Bicentennial and Hartford Brook Fields, the scope of work would include work at the building along with handicap access to the facilities. If awarded, the \$25,000 matching Grant could take 1-2 months to be finalized, though there is an option to request a waiver in order to fund work retroactively.

Jack Cummings has donated a John Deere Zero Turn, 42 inch mower to Hartford Brook, an estimated value of \$2,000. The Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on July 11th to formally accept the gift. The Commission thanked Jack Cummings for the generous donation.

Chairman Shute noted that the Grant speaks to “Allowing Community use at the facility,” and questioned whether the use would need to include the building, or could it be limited to the field space. J. Manzi responded that there were no specific parameters, and that specific details can be worked out in the application and management plan.

Chairman Shute asked about the field’s current use and J. Hutchinson asked whether it would be ready for soccer in the fall. J. Manzi spoke that there are some teams, including a Lamprey River All Star team, using the field for practices. He plans to meet with a representative from the Deerfield Bull Dogs to gain further clarity on their field dimension needs so that the layout can be planned for Fall use. J. Manzi has spoke with Chris Colbath regarding the irrigation system and Mr. Colbath feels it is ready for full use. J. Hutchinson asked that someone be monitoring the field to stay aware of when it needs fertilization or other treatment. The commission expects that Jack Cummings will assume maintenance of the field in 2017.

Joe Stone Scholarship

J. Manzi spoke that the Joe Stone Scholarship was awarded to Megan Hall and Jack Reid. He has submitted for two \$500 payments that will be ready next week and will connect with Connie Stone to identify some good dates to do a presentation.

Deerfield 250th Anniversary Celebration

J. Hutchinson asked to get the outfield fences to the fairgrounds, J. Manzi confirmed that he would. J. Hutchinson spoke that he hopes to have someone assume responsibility for the bases, lining of the field, gear, etc. for the weekend's games. J. Manzi will connect with Dwight Barnes to ensure they have everything they need. J. Hutchinson will have a trailer on site with tables, chairs, EZ Ups, etc. in order to put together designated areas for activities such as the Frog Jump competition. The group agreed to use a 20X20 tent with tables and chairs for childrens' quiet activities such as coloring, crafts, checkers, etc.

J. Manzi agreed to lead on an All Ages BINGO, the children's activity area, and the children's games for Saturday. M. Robertson suggested using a volunteer sign up for the children's' area to fill slots throughout the weekend, perhaps DCS teachers could be recruited. J. Manzi indicated that space needs for the games would be roughly one half the size of a football field. J. Hutchinson will give the actual location further thought.

Other Program Updates

J. Manzi reminded everyone that the Summer Concert Series will kick off Friday, July 24th, Amy and John Harrington have volunteered to help with concessions. Jack and Ernie will cover July 8th, Ernie, Jeff and Julie on July 22nd, Melissa and Katie on August 5th and Jeff and Melissa on Saturday, July 20th.

J. Hutchinson mentioned that he has tickets to the ham and bean supper on July 15th for sale. The event is \$7 and will be held in the DCS Cafeteria. J. Manzi offered to sell tickets from the Parks & Recreation Office.

Chairman Shute asked about the field use policy. J. Manzi will be putting a draft together and first run it by the Board of Selectmen for comment. Chairman Shute asked that drafts also be circulated to the Commission.

Adjournment

Motion: E. Robert moves to adjourn the meeting of June 2016

Second: M. Robertson

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

Next Meeting Tuesday, July 5th @ 6:00pm

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

Pending Approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission