

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD**  
**Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**January 4, 2017**  
MINUTES

**Call to Order**

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

**Present:** Jeff Shute, Chairman; Julie DeCosta, Amy Harrington, Jack Hutchinson, and Melissa Robertson, Members

**Excused:** Ken Heckman, Brian Layton and Ernie Robert Members

**Also Present:** Joe Manzi, Parks & Recreation Director & Darrin Radatz, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director

**Minutes of December 2016**

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

**Second:** J. Hutchinson

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

**Citizens Comments**

None

**Hartford Brook Update**

J. Manzi spoke that the Citizen's Warrant article is coming together, volunteers will work to collect the necessary 25 signatures during the 250th event. J. Hutchinson stressed the importance of making sure the name and contact information is clearly legible. No word has been received on the LWCF Grant, but is expected by the end of January.

**250th Anniversary Update**

J. Hutchinson updated that the 250th Committee has adopted language around the use of the remaining money, he estimates the balance will be approximately \$11,000.

For the 250th closing event scheduled for Saturday, January 7th volunteers have put together a skating rink at the Town Hall. The Fire Department helped with flooding the rink, and the Highway Department has helped with digging the hole for the burial of the time capsules. There will be photos on display at the event and some clever items have been donated to include in the capsule. Ticket sales for the dinner have been strong. There is a need for volunteers to help Friday evening with bringing chairs into the Town Hall and Church.

Saturday's events will include a Contra Dance, bonfire, skating, popcorn and cookies.

**2017 Deliberative Session**

J. Manzi reminded members that the Town Deliberative Session will be February 4th at 9a, the School's Deliberative Session will be held February 11th. J. Hutchinson reminded the importance of attending as anything within the Budgets can be changed during the Sessions.

**Program Updates**

J. Manzi updated that this Sunday will kick off Adult Volleyball from 9:00 - 10:30 in the DCS gym. Also starting in January is an Adult Pottery Class put on one Thursday a month by To Your Arts Content. Winter Carnival will be February 25th and J. Manzi mentioned that Parks & Recreation would be excited to see the skating rink used during the carnival. D. Radatz mentioned that they would like to bring back the tractor rides that were done a few years ago, J. Hutchinson suggested reaching out to local resident Alden Dill. The Carnival's schedule of events is being finalized.

D. Radatz updated the Commission on some programming ideas he has been exploring. The first being a Repair Cafe, an idea that was circulated on the Deerfield Community Facebook Page. In brainstorming ways to execute the event it was suggested that they identify categories of items to be brought in for repair, for example small appliances, or furniture. J. Hutchinson suggested putting together a list of supplies needed on hand and to being to network with local volunteers and then firm up a date.

J. Manzi spoke that a follow up to the Repair Cafe might be a "How To" seminar series, for example someone might bring in a zipper for repair, but may want to learn how to do the repair themselves during a later instructional time Other programs the Department is working on included a Youth Ice Fishing Derby, Trail Work, Dog Obedience Classes and a Teen Series. J. Hutchinson suggested that in addition to ice fishing, a Spring or Summer fishing derby could work. J. DeCosta noted that there is a group of local residents very interested in getting a trail established from the Peg King Park to the gazebo. M. Robertson suggested reaching out to the 4H or the Dill Family, or Pet-Agree out of Candia, NH for the obedience idea. J. Manzi noted that ny new programming would be fully vetted with the Board of Selectmen and Primex.

D. Radatz also spoke about the idea of a Kitchen and Backyard themed series with guest speakers to present around topics such as raising backyard chickens, canning, BBQ, fermentation etc. A Technology Series was also suggested. He will continue to develop the ideas and keep the Commission updated.

#### **Online Registration Update**

J. Manzi spoke that training will begin this week with the continued goal to be online February 1st. The service will be more broadly publicized once the training comes together.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** M. Robertson moves to adjourn the meeting of January 2017

**Second:** J. DeCosta

**All in Favor – Motion Carries – Meeting Adjourned at 6:45p**

**Next Meeting Tuesday, February 7th @ 6:00pm**

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

*Pending Approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission*