

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
Parks & Recreation Commission
October 4, 2017

Call to Order

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

Present: Jeff Shute, Chairman; Nate Brown, Julie DeCosta, Bryan Giard, Amy Harrington, Ernie Roberts and Melissa Robertson Members

Excused: Ken Heckman, Member

Also Present: Nick Lawrence, Assistant Director

Minutes - September 2017

Motion: M. Robertson moves the minutes as written

Second: E. Roberts

Vote: Yea 7, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Citizens Comments

None

Director Search Update

Chairman Shute updated that several applications have been received and a sub-committee has been formed to review. The goal is to have a decision made by the end of the month.

Hartford Brook Update

E. Roberts updated that the forms are in for the dugouts and Jack Hutchinson is working with Rick Pelletier on design and permitting. The next phase of fencing has been put to bid, the Select Board is looking for a recommendation from the Commission on how it would like to proceed. The bid from Vermont Recreational to install two sections of fencing and a backstop for the second field is \$18,209.

Motion: E. Roberts moves to accept the Vermont Recreational proposal

Second: M. Robertson

Vote: All in favor, motion carries

E. Roberts spoke that he has been reviewing the Town purchasing policy and how it will apply to the process of applying LWCF Grant monies. Currently anything costing between \$1,000 and \$10,000 requires three quotes, this can make it difficult when volunteers are providing their work at cost. The Select Board is looking at raising the threshold requiring three quotes from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Nick and Ernie will plan to sit with Jack Hutchinson to create a project outline.

Tailgate Trick Or Treat

Chairman Shute asked that the flyer and promotional information be updated to indicate that the gates will be locked at 12:45p, the parade will start at 1:15p and cars will be unable to exit the fairgrounds until 3p. Nick will secure a port-o-potty rental for the day and volunteers will plan to move over to assist with hotdog sales once parking is underway.

Volunteer Coach Responsibilities - Alan O'Neal

Alan O'Neal asked that the Commission look into the responsibilities being assigned to volunteer coaches across the soccer, baseball and basketball programs. This soccer season coaches have been responsible for acquiring volunteers to referee the games and it has not been working, a similar situation happened during baseball season.

Generally, parents are unable or uninterested in refereeing games. He asked that the Commission look to create consistency between sports, noting that the parent pool is not solicited to provide referees for basketball. Another area for improvement is with the snack shack sales, Mr. O'Neal found this to be a point of contention during baseball season.

M. Robertson spoke that she feels the Deerfield pool of individuals who know soccer to coach has been tapped out and that if you can't find volunteers to coach you won't find them to referee. She suggested asking Deb or Cindy Hanson with the School to send out a call for referees for the remainder of the season, possibly targeting High School students who play themselves. Chairman Shute asked whether there was an interest in referee training, if the Commission made a resource available would people take advantage? B. Giard noted that, in other towns such as Fremont, coaches and teams do have the responsibility to rake and line the fields during baseball season. N. Brown will ask the Candia program how it handles referee coverage for its games. It was suggested that perhaps the DCS 8th grade Community Service Magnet could assist with the snack shack. Members agreed to look at the structure of all sports offered and to look at where it makes sense for the Program to absorb responsibilities. Nick will contact Seacoast United to see what offerings they may have for referee training and will reach out to Cindy Hanson to inquire about a pool of people to step in.

Coffeehouse Fundraiser

J. DeCosta updated that there was an opening in coffeehouse schedule for November 2017, the weekend before Thanksgiving and Members agreed to proceed with taking that on. Volunteers will be needed to set up on Friday evening and to donate coffee and baked goods for the event on Saturday. J. DeCosta has the contract, she will complete it and will send out the signup sheet in early November.

Other Items

M. Robertson suggested that the Commission look to make a dedication to Joe Manzi for his years of service, similar to the way the Library named a room for Evelyn Decota when she retired. She suggested renaming the After School Clubhouse to the Joe Manzi After School Clubhouse. Members supported the idea and Chairman Shute will ask the Select Board on how to proceed.

N. Brown spoke that he was approached by Amy Carlson asking if she could offer an adult Zumba or T-25 in the exercise studio. Nick will reach out to her to discuss further.

Adjournment

Motion: E. Roberts moves to adjourn the October 2017 meeting

Second: M. Robertson

Vote: Yea 7, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Next Meeting Wednesday, November 1st @ 6:00pm

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

Pending Approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission