

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
Parks & Recreation Commission
June 6, 2018

Call to Order

6:05 pm: Chairman Shute called the meeting to order

Present: Jeff Shute, Chairman; Dwight Barnes, Nate Brown, Jeff D'Agostino, Bryan Giard, Amy Harrington and Ernie Robert, Members

Also Present: Nick Lawrence, Director, Kevin Hill, Assistant Director

Chairman Shute called the meeting to order. He introduced new Member Jeff D'Agostino who has been appointed to fill Melissa Robertson's vacated seat.

Minutes - May 2018 Meeting

Motion: B. Giard moves the minutes as written

Second: N. Brown

Vote: Yea 6*, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

**Note Member E. Robert was not present at the time of this vote*

Citizens Comments

Terry Coriotti introduced himself as an individual interested in filling the member vacancy on the Commission and read a prepared statement. He lives on South Road with two children ages 13 and 11 who have been participants in various programs within Parks and Recreation. He promised to uphold the Commission's values of respect, fairness and honesty and described his commitment to support the programming with strong organization and follow through. Members thanked Mr. Coriotti for his time and interest in serving.

Deerfield/Candia Soccer Partnership

N. Lawrence spoke that he has met with the CYAA representatives and nailed down details for the partnership. There will be no raise in prices for out of Town athletes in either program. Generally the CYAA Travel programs cost \$130 - \$155. The CYAA asked whether Deerfield could contribute field space for the Travel programs, Nick and Kevin looked at Hartford Brook and the field will not be able to meet the soccer requirements. Nick will be in touch with Cindy Hanson about the possibility of using the School fields. The unknown factor will be how many Recreational kids will be pulled into Deerfield's programs. D. Barnes asked whether Candia would send coaches to the Recreation program and vice versa, N. Brown responded that it will be volunteer based. CYAA does require its coaches to be certified, the certification begins with a two hour online course at a cost of \$25. Each program (CYAA and Deerfield Parks & Recreation) will have their own marketing efforts and registration processes.

J. D'Agostino reported that the Futsal program has just wrapped up, they are organizing a combination soccer/futsal Summer Camp with FutsalNH. FutsalNH and Brazilian Art Soccer will come in and run the camp August 6-10th. Each day 9a - 12p will be soccer (at Bicentennial) and 1p - 3p will be Futsal (on the tennis courts. Additionally he is working with Seacoast United Soccer to improve their camp over the one run last year by having better coaches assigned to the Deerfield camp. The Seacoast United Soccer half day soccer camp will run the last week of July. He continues to work on scheduling a Referee Clinic for the last week of August or first week of September. Commission Members agreed that it would like to reimburse or absorb the \$60 cost for those volunteers interested in attending.

Adult Softball

K. Hill reported that 6 sponsors have been secured with 80 individual registrations, down from 95 the previous year. Of the 80 players registered, 33 are new with 15 belonging to the new Northwood team. While he was hoping to grow the league to eight teams, it looks like there will be six teams for the season. He and Nick will be meeting with Dwight to look at Team composition and scheduling with a June 25th target start date. D. Barnes

spoke that he has reached out to some of the individuals who are not returning and that generally the reason given was personal and scheduling conflicts. No negative feedback about the league was given as their reason for not registering for this season.

Hartford Brook Update

N. Lawrence updated that the softball field infield skin and hydroseeding are complete and the irrigation installation is in progress. The cabinet materials for the concession stand have been purchased and an experienced individual has volunteered to assist with the installation. Jack Hutchinson has advised that it would be worth pushing back the brush line along the third base line to allow more room for spectators.

D. Barnes informed the Commission that Dave Drapeau, the DCS Baseball Coach, has generously donated his coaching stipend to Deerfield for the continued work at Hartford Brook. The Commission expressed it's thanks to Mr. Drapeau.

Summer Entertainment Series

N. Lawrence spoke that they are aiming for five dates in the series this Summer and have been looking into bringing in other entertainment aside from just bands, including a Magic Show and BMX stunt riders. Mr. Nick and the Dirty Tricks has been lined up as the entertainment for Old Home Day. He is also looking at bringing in a Food Truck or other food option for the evenings.

Old Home Day

N. Lawrence updated that, again, they are looking to add a Food Truck during the day as a food option for attendees and will still have the chicken BBQ in the evening. He is working on the Chicken Rack and Dunk Tank reservations. The Fireworks display has been approved and he is still waiting to hear whether the Fair Association will be contributing with sponsorship again. D. Barnes suggested that Nick reach out to the Lazy Lion and the other local restaurants to see whether they may be interested in doing a lunch offering. Members agreed that they would like to once again see a Baseball Game and Road Race on the schedule of events as well as possibly bringing back the bike race.

N. Lawrence updated that the damaged batting cage is being addressed by AQ Fence, the poles have been re-cemented and they will be reconnecting the top. Work completion is on track for the end of June. He has looked at the pitching machine and confirmed that it is operable, but does not get a lot of use. E. Roberts spoke that he has a second pitching machine at his house and that he left the owners manuals and information regarding the manufacturer with Joe. D. Barnes suggested speaking directly with the coaches to find out what they want so that time and money is not spent to refurbish a machine that no one plans to use. K. Hill has received coach feedback that the current pitching machine is difficult to adjust to different sized hitters. He suggested it may be worth pricing out a traditional pitching machine for purchase. N. Brown suggested that there be a goal created where concession proceeds could be earmarked for the purchase of a new pitching machine, noting that people are motivated toward achieving a defined goal. D. Barnes spoke that it is a shame to see the concession buildings sitting empty when such great work went into their construction. He recently spoke with one of the parents who will be in charge of fundraising for the 8th grade next year about manning the concessions. They agreed to talk about it with their group and get back to the Commission.

Commission Openings

Chairman Shute spoke that four interested applicants came forward to fill the one opening Commission position and raised the question as to whether the Commission should expand its roster from seven to eleven Members. D. Barnes noted his excitement that there were four individuals interested in being a part of the group. B. Giard felt it would be great to have more hands, opinions and thoughts being contributed. E. Roberts presented the counter argument that, while it is great to see an interest, he is generally not a fan of big committees. He asked whether there was a Charter that dictated Commission roster size? Chairman Shute does not think there is, but has asked the Town Administrator to look into it. J. D'Agostino suggested that, if the Commission were to move to a larger roster, it would allow for the formation of sub committees and to better disperse the work. A. Harrington voiced support for the sub committee idea as it would allow Members to focus on their areas of strength.

Motion: D. Barnes moves to increase the size of the Parks and Recreation Commission from seven to eleven members, pending Charter verification

Second: B. Giard

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

D. Barnes asked about next steps, Chairman Shute responded that he will get confirmation from the Town Administrator on the Charter and, if it is OK, will confirm that the individuals are still interested. Their names will then go before the Board of Selectmen as nominees and, with Board approval, will be sworn in by the Town Clerk.

Other Items

Chairman Shute noted that former member Julie DeCosta will be seeing the Joe Stone Scholarship presentation through to completion this year, Nick has been in touch with her.

Non Public Session

Motion: D. Barnes moves to enter into a Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II

Second: E. Roberts

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

Reconvene

Chairman Shute noted for the record that no action was taken during the Non Public Session.

Motion: B. Giard moves to seal the minutes of the Non Public Session

Second: J. D'Agostino

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

Motion: J. D'Agostino moves to evaluate the organizational structure of the Parks & Recreation Programming, including the roles and responsibilities of the Management Team

Second: N. Brown

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

Adjournment

Motion: E. Robert moves to adjourn the June 2018 meeting

Second: J. D'Agostino

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

Next Meeting Wednesday, July 4th @ 6:00pm

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

Pending Approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission