

TOWN OF DEERFIELD
Parks & Recreation Commission
June 3, 2015
MINUTES

Call to Order

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

Present: Jeff Shute, Chairman; Julie DeCosta, Amy Harrington, Ken Heckman, Ernie Robert and Melissa Robertson, Members

Excused: Jack Hutchinson and Brian Layton Members

Also Present: Joe Manzi, Parks & Recreation Director

Minutes of May 2015

Motion: E. Robert moves the minutes as written

Second: M. Robertson

Discussion: M. Robertson asked that J. Manzi confirm that the minutes are posted online as she could not locate them through the Town's website.

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

K. Heckman was absent at the time of this vote.

Citizens Comments

J. Manzi and E. Robert spoke that they had been in contact with Jim Deeley who is looking to use the Parks & Recreation Van for use with a School Sponsored Enrichment program. Chairman Shute asked whether the outstanding insurance and liability questions had been addressed. J. Manzi updated that he has discussed the idea with the Town Administrator and that the ability to approve the use of the van seems unlikely. Generally, it is not a good policy as the van is the property of the Town. The Commission asked that the group go before the Select Board with its request so that it can address the insurance question. If the Board of Selectmen has no objections to the idea the Commission will then consider a proposal.

Playground Update

J. Manzi spoke that the playground build at the George B. White Building is scheduled to occur June 14th at 8a. He is expecting a good team and thanked everyone who has already volunteered. Dig Safe will be on site Monday and the demolition will take place next week. One item on the equipment list is an auger. J. Manzi asked that the Commission ask around to see if anyone local has one they would be willing to give use of.

Old Home Day Updates

J. Manzi has heard from J. Hutchinson that the Fair Association approved the request to use the Fairgrounds for the Old Home Day fireworks and ice cream sales has agreed to sponsor \$2,000 toward the display. The ice cream sales has tentatively been put before the Deerfield Bulldogs to see if they would be interested in using the opportunity to fundraise. They were open to learning more. M. Robertson suggested that Parks & Recreation consider handling the sales as a fundraiser for the Joe Stone Scholarship. J. DeCosta updated that the next Coffeehouse to benefit the scholarship will not be until the Fall of 2016. J. Manzi questioned whether the Department and Commission need to be considerate about mixing the Old Home Day event, which is an event that loses money, with a fundraiser which brings in revenue. Chairman Shute felt that the Commission would have no issues in keeping the two area clear and distinct from one another.

In other updates J. Manzi is looking to secure a director for the Road Race. Mark Tibbetts would like to once again take on coordination of the Parade and the BBQ Racks have been reserved. A letter has been sent to local Organizations (not Corporations) to solicit input and involvement. He has asked that they return feedback by July 1st so that the marketing brochures can be put together. E. Robert and J. DeCosta will look into the Road Race coordination further.

Hartford Brook Field Updates

J. Manzi updated that he has met with Fred Cameron of Cameron's Home and Garden Center out of Farmington. The business was recommended by Rick Pelletier as having extensive experience in field development. Mr. Cameron is gathering data on size, soil and orientation. He has indicated that irrigation at the field is a must as it is an unestablished and dry area. He suggested speaking with Gilford Well to analyze the needs, but was happy to work with anyone. Mr. Cameron asked that the Department come back to him with a budget and that he will then work within that scope to identify plans and appropriate phases. K. Heckman suggested that there may be local irrigation specialists who could provide, at the very least, multiple cost estimates. J. Manzi will get the ball rolling on collecting quotes and additional proposals for putting in a well(s) and irrigation. All agreed that Electric work would be the next variable to tackle. It was suggested that local outfit ICreed be contacted.

K. Heckman asked what communication may need to occur with residents of the neighborhood. The Commission did not feel that any formal communication was required as the space was designated from the onset as for recreational use.

Program Updates

J. Manzi updated that the Parks & Recreation Summer Staffing is complete, he feels the group is very strong this year with several well rounded individuals. The Summer Camp schedules will be divided out between a Traditional track and one that is more Sports oriented. Fertilization has been done at Bicentennial Field and the grass is looking good. The floors in the Rec area at the George B. White building have been stripped, washed and waxed recently. Finally, J. Manzi updated that the Fair Association has approved the use of the Fairgrounds for the 2015 Tailgate Trick-Or-Treat.

250th Anniversary

E. Robert spoke that the Town Hall has been reserved for Saturday, January 9, 2016 for a 250th Celebratory Kick-off event. He is looking to connect with the lady who does Contra dances, the tentative plans are to have some sort of potluck dinner/dance and reading of the proclamation. He is working with the Church on these initial plans and hopes to have other organizations join in. The First Night idea for a New Year's Eve or New Year's Day event was ultimately turned down. J. Manzi asked whether the Contra Dance was being looked at due to its historical feel, E. Robert answered yes, but that at this point he hopes to appeal to the broadest of audiences and is open to other ideas.

Joe Stone Scholarship Update

Non-Public Session - RSA 91-A:3, (j)

Motion: E. Robert moves to adjourn to a Non Public Session so that the Joe Stone Scholarship Applications could be discussed at length.

Second: M. Robertson

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

At this point Member A. Harrington excused herself as a member of her family is an applicant being considered.

Reconvene

Chairman Shute noted for the record that during the Non Public Session seven scholarship applications were reviewed and that the Commission decided on two scholarship recipients.

Motion: E. Robert moves to seal the minutes of the Non Public Session

Second: J. Decosta

Vote: Yea 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0 - Motion Carries

Adjournment

Motion: M. Robertson moves to adjourn the meeting of May 2015

Second: E. Robert

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

Next Meeting Tuesday, June 2nd @ 6:00pm

*The Minutes were Transcribed and Respectfully Submitted by Katherine A. Libby, Recording Secretary.
Pending Approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission*