

Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes
Thursday August 16, 2007
Durham Town Hall - Council Chambers
7:00 PM

Present: John Perry, Jane Crooks, George Lamb. Gregg Moore, Sara Wilson, Mike Lynch

Absent: Emily Slama, Kathy Leach, Ken Anderson

Mike Lynch came to the meeting to discuss Wagon Hill Policies. It was agreed that the meeting agenda be switched to hear Mike first.

Wagon Hill (which will now be further noted in the minutes as "WH") has a list of Policies and Regulations that is kept on file with Mike Lynch. He would like for us to discuss and create an updated version. In it he would like us to include Horse Back Riding not to be allowed. Many reasons were discussed why Horse Back riding in WH should be discontinued. There are trail damages, waste, hiker complaints. He would like it to be an official rule.

The committee discussed what we could do for horse back riders. Perhaps we can talk to Green Acre Farms.

John made a motion to create a Policy Form for each park that we have jurisdiction over.

All were in favor of the motion.

Jane, Gregg and John are going to further discuss and create policies for the parks within our jurisdiction.

The WH endowment of \$28k brought on a lot of discussion.

John, Sara, Gregg, George and Ken walked around the WH property in August. Many items were noted as potential areas for the money to be spent. John presented some of the ideas to Mike for his input.

Mike did mention that in the Planning Budget for Durham there is a parking lot to be designed near the barn, enough for 80 cars.

After discussing all the ideas with Mike, it was thought that a bathroom near the house would be somewhat easy and the basis to many of the ideas that were discussed (such as weddings, camps, sledding)

Mike also agreed to dump wood chips and we can ask the boy Scouts to spread them on the trails in the woods.

Sara and Jane agreed to contact Mike and have a tour of the area in the house that we think would be the location for a bathroom.

There was a confidential preliminary review of the survey findings. More results will be available in a few weeks. Overall, it was concluded that we need to have more public awareness to our existing areas of recreation in Durham.

Durham Day-September 16th

Emily will be doing a flyer for public awareness

Gregg and Sara are doing a small scavenger hunt for the kids and their parents.

Sara will be ordering small prizes.

Jane will make a display to promote the adopt a trail program

John is able to do posters, let him know if you need any.

We should all plan to be at the table at some point during the event.

Adopt a Trail

Jane showed some trail signs and arrows that came in.

The Long Marsh committee needs to finish the trails, but probably not until the summer is over. They are almost finished.

There are not that many properties that need to be adopted.

Doe farm is not actually our responsibility. We need to talk to the trustees.

No need for adoption: Packers Falls and Wiswall

Waiting to see from the survey who volunteered

Parks and Rec. Blog

Sara talked briefly about the blog that she created for the committee. It was mainly thought to be used for public awareness and postings for townspeople to see what is happening in the parks. Sara thought it would work well when we get the Letterboxing project moving. This way kids can post their thoughts about the experience and even post photos. We could post the letterboxing instructions and the like.

Sara will post something about Durham Day. We need to get the link on either Todd's Friday updates or on the flyers at Durham day.