

Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes September 20, 2007

Present: John Parry, George Lamb, Ken Andersen, Cathy Leach, Gregg Moore, Emily Slama

Chair John Parry called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Minutes from August 16th were approved.

Public Comment:

Town Resident Mike Hoffman presented an idea he had on a small scale skateboard area at Woodridge Park. It would be a volunteer effort and he would talk with Mike Lynch in Public Works about logistics/help. He proposed moving some parking spots and making a longer recreational area where the basketball court currently is. This can be used for skateboard exercises as well as other things like tricycles, rollerblades, etc. The Parks and Recreation Committee was supportive of the idea. **Cathy Leach will bring the idea to the Skateboard Park Committee.**

An email was received by Town resident Maria Isaak regarding the bike trails in the Town of Durham. She would like to head an effort to link the bike trails. The Parks and Recreation Committee was supportive of the idea.

Emily brought to the table a suggestion from Oyster River Parents and Preschoolers, a group in Town, to install a message board by the Jackson's Landing playground for residents to post information and community events.

2007 Budget and Task Group Activities

Brainstorm on Wish List:

- 2 Message Boards (\$400 ea) for Jackson's Landing playground and down by the water with Tidal Charts, etc. **(Emily will investigate)**
- Backboard at Woodridge (\$800) – Eagle Scout can have as a project **(John will investigate in Spring of 2008)**
- Signage Issues at Jackson's Landing, Wagon Hill (\$400)
- Woodridge needs some shade – invest in a sun shade or some trees (\$400)
- Brochure printing costs (\$500 – 2008)
- Educational Clinics – expert leads and educational clinic of interest to residents for a fee (\$300). **The Activities Task Group will look into these by season quarterly (Gregg, Sara and Jane).** Examples are Flyfishing at Packers Falls and Wiswall; XCountry Skiing, Kayaking, Bike Inspection Workshop lead by our Police Department **(Ken will look into this)**
- Waterfountain at Jackson's Landing fixed (\$500) **John will look into this.**
- Enhance entertainment at Easter Egg Hunt, etc.
- Adding decorations/prizes to Halloween Skate Party in Oct (\$300). **Cathy will look into this.**
- Skateboard Park at Woodridge (\$500). **Cathy will look into this.**

Ongoing Project Updates:

Durham Day - Sara and Gregg created a letterboxing activity for both small kids and bigger kids. One was simple and one was more advanced. The prizes were compasses! We decided that this should be done next year again. We should add a big sign next time! Emily took a map and some activities outlined on the Town website and made them into fliers. John added that it would be nice to revise the information on the tri fold board for next year. We should think about the message we want to convey and make it interactive and interesting. Ken suggested an orienteering project for next year.

Report on School Playing Fields Study Committee – Cathy stated that they are looking for a representative from the Durham Parks and Rec committee. Currently there is representation from 3 Towns and the School Board. If anyone knows someone who would be interested in joining this committee, please contact Cathy.

Rink Committee – Cathy stated that the rink is opening Oct 15th – End of March. It has a new energy efficient water heater which will make better ice. The zambonie has been serviced.

Survey – John stated that the survey has been completed and the official results will be coming as soon as Bob Barcelona completes the analysis.

The meeting concluded at 8:45pm.