

Durham Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes

Thursday, March 20, 2008 7pm

Present: John Parry, Jane Crooks, Ken Andersen, Sara Wilson, Gregg Moore, Emily Slama and 2 UNH Rec Management majors observed

Absent: George Lamb, Cathy Leach

Approved Minutes from February Meeting

Public Comment

* Jane Crooks gave a history of Longmarsh and it's trails, need to get markers done in Horsehyde/Longmarsh trail, wants to put history and maps in kiosk.

* Should P&R participate in the July 4th Fireworks celebration? Will discuss at next meeting.

* Some comments asking for plowing at Woodridge Playground. Decided that Public Works can prioritize plowing schedule but will pass along this information to Mike.

Discussion Topics

Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Durham P&R and ORPP - gave update: 3,200 eggs stuffed, tent with food and beverages to promote community and socializing, bunny suit rented from Boston Costumes, Fire dept will be there for safety and Touch a Truck

Committee Member Positions - Jane Crooks, Ken Anderson and George Lamb have submitted resignations. Thank you for your many years of dedication, diligence and hard work! The Town is better off because each of you volunteered. Sara, John, Gregg and Emily will continue on the committee. Mike Seivert will be the new Town Council Rep for the committee. Emily will apply to be moved from alternate to a full position. It was decided that Sara will chair the committee. Thank you to John for chairing the committee for many years!

Budget - P&R was given \$6,000 budget by the Town. We will talk about goals at the next meeting

It was decided to be goal oriented each year instead of creating a formal strategic plan, due to the size of the committee and the funding.

Survey results were discussed. We should work on more public awareness of parks and resources as well as work on a bike path, brochure of things to do in Durham needs to be done

Jane Crooks gave a history on Wagon Hill. Lois Brown enjoyed long walks with her dogs at Wagon Hill and when she died she left \$80,000 to Wagon Hill. Over the last 20 years it has earned \$20,000 interest. We can also apply for a grant to help with structural improvements, addition of a bathroom. We will explore ways to improve Wagon Hill for the Durham community at our next meeting.

Jacksons Landing Project - our committee will be responsible for the trail on the Northside of the road - need to create a footpath, we need to coordinate the footpath during construction

Other Topics:

New direct email address for our committee - parksandrec@ci.durham.nh.us

Joined National Association of Parks and Recreation - magazine notifies us of upcoming conferences and workshops

UNH Recreation management major can help with event planning

Advertise next event at the current event so people look forward to activities and can plan for them - next event is a Mother's Day walk at Wagon Hill