

# Durham Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting-Minutes

Thursday, June 19, 2008. 1900 to 2120 Durham Town Hall

Committee Attendees: Chairperson Sarah Wilson, Vice Chairperson Emily Slama, Co-Secretaries Amy Cunningham and Pat Houle, Dave Leach, John Parry, Gregg Moore, Jenna Roberts.

Public: Maria Isakk

Not in attendance Mike Sievert.

Meeting was called to order at 1900hours

Motion by Emily Slama, second by Sarah Wilson to accept the minutes from the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion Passed

Introduction was made by John Parry as he was not at last meeting.

- Gave a description of the past four years of the committee.
- What was good and what wasn't.
- Looking forward to being on the committee again. Welcome back and thank for serving!!!

Public Comments:

Maria Isaak gave a presentation of proposed major bike trail located in the woods of off Bennett Road.

- Advised that there was a one going to be made a few years ago behind the Police Department to Newington but it got shot down
- The new one would enter off of mill road across from college woods and go to either the highland house on Bennett road or the intersection of Packersfalls road and Wiswall Road
- Possibility of widening Newmarket Road (Route 108) but the funds have been depleted because of the floods.
- Maria advised that Counselor Smith abuts the purpose land and is behind the project. Will give tours of the land to anyone who is interested.
- Committee advised Maria that we would look into this bike path. Will have to contact Doug Banks to see where we would go next

Discussion Items:

1. Parks and Recreation Tri-Fold handout
  - Sara advised that they will be meeting as a sub committee during a work session.
  - Emily asked later in the meeting if she could join that committee
2. Meeting Time (Is once a month good?)
  - Need to make time for sub committee work sessions
  - Gregg purposed two weeks after. Sara came up with 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month for private work session. Motion was passed
  - Next Work Session will be July 1<sup>st</sup> at 1900 hours
3. Jackson's Landing Update (John Parry)
  - John advised that the updates to the land are going to be contracted out and will be supervised by Mike Lynch and the Public Works Department
  - Down where the lower parking lot is now will be a "green" area for picnics
  - There will be parking on the northwest side of the building across the street (had map to show everyone)
  - The boat ramp is going to be re-done
  - There will be two foot paths one south of the rink and one north of the rink across the street. Both approximately ¼ of a mile.
  - Parks and Recreation is responsible for the north loop.
    1. Will be making signs with history of area and all about the vegetation in the area
    2. The area is going to be handicap accessible. Jenna brought up the idea of making the signs in brail as well
    3. Dave knows someone who makes great wooden signs.
    4. Sara, Pat and Dave are in charge of the signs and history
  - They want the work to be done by the fall
  - Amy and John will help with getting the trails done
  - Timberland may be able to help out with the trails
4. Proposed Use Policy for Durham Properties
  - Signs at all parks?
  - Committee will e-mail Sara with what should be on it
  - There has been a problem with waste from Horses at Wagon Hill
5. Conservation Committee
  - Sara and John sat in on meeting
  - Listed all the town properties
  - There are four that are maintained by P&R Committee
    1. Woodridge
    2. Jacksons Landing

3. Mill Pond Park (Not Milne Park)
4. Wagon Hill
5. Old Landing Road
6. All Class Six Roads
  - Beech Hill
  - Edgewood Ext
  - Longmarsh
  - Moat
  - Stagecoach
  - Watson
- Bringing someone in to find new ideas for management plans for those places
6. Durham Day
  - Gregg and Sara are doing the letter box
  - Need to find out who is going to be there
  - Should we have tee-shirts for us to wear or to give away?
7. Adopt a trail
  - Moves to next meeting
8. Survey Results
  - Towns people were not aware of what we have/own
  - We want to present what we are doing different
  - We are working with what we have and not buying more

Sara motioned to extended meeting, Gregg second

9. Skate Park Update (Dave Leach)
  - Plains are in place
  - Using half of the basketball court at Woodridge
  - Its going to be all urban features
  - Total cost of \$12,000
  - Town spending \$6,000
  - Sara would P&R like to help with \$\$\$???
  - Maybe a skate night at Churchill rink (Gregg-Jenna)
  - John will contact the Skate Park Committee
  - In long run we will be in charge of the skate park
10. Churchill Rink (Dave Leach)
  - Finished in the black (Congrats)
  - Adding Entrance to Northwest Corner of building

- They also want to increase community events
11. Council Goals (Dave Leach)
- Enhance Recreation Opportunities

Side Notes:

1. John Advised that the shade structures are up at Woodridge field

New Topics

1. Pat brought up the idea of a new P&R Map. Like the ones in the meeting room at town hall. Also re-doing map online. Will Contact Karen Edwards regarding that information
2. Jenna was interested in supplying doggy waste bags at all parks

Meeting adjourned at 2120 hours

Submitted by;

Patrick M. Houle