

Durham Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting-Minutes

Thursday, January 15, 2009 1900 to 2100 Durham Town Hall

Meeting Attendees:

Committee Members: Chairperson Sara Wilson, Secretary Amy Cunningham, Secretary Pat Houle, John Parry, Gregg Moore, Mike Sievert.

Public: N/A

Not in attendance: Vice Chairperson Emily Slama, Secretary Amy Cunningham, David Leach, Jenna Roberts.

Meeting was called to order at 1900hours

- Sara motioned to have minutes from last meeting approved. Greg and Mike 2nd the motioned
- Floor was opened to a public comment. No one was there.

DISUSSION ITEMS:

- Turkey Trot: Sara
 - Went well approximately 50 people came out for it
 - There was great weather and had lots of food
 - Next year make it an hour only to accommodate the wave of people.
- Light up Durham: Sara
 - Next year try to schedule for half an hour before
 - They stayed until 1830 hours
 - Many people wanted to do the activities after the lighting
 - Also find out who is going to be there next year and schedule activities according to their plans
- Trail use policy: John
 - John sent all members a copy of the trail use policy
 - All members will review and submit changes back to John
- Recreation Director: Sara
 - Sara spoke with councilor Leach and she is very interested in hiring someone for a part time Parks and Recreation Director/Coordinator.
 - P&R Committee thought that it was a great idea.

- Pat wanted to have a back up plan in case the council turned it down. Maybe having a UNH student do an internship for the first year.
- If the position gets passed, also have maybe one or two students assist as an internship.
- Committee also would like to have members on a hiring board as well as DPW Director Lynch and Councilor Leach.
- Sara will pass these notes onto councilor Leach
- Try to advise public of Job in the Todd's Friday update

Action Items:

- Fundraiser with Garden Club
 - The Committee is interested in contacting the Garden Club to have a fund raiser in the spring/summertime
- MPCA
 - The building went into foreclosure
 - Bank owns it now and had contacted Town of Durham to purchase it
 - It's on the TC agenda
- Army Artillery
 - Pat spoke with Sgt. Johnson of the Artillery unit in Portsmouth. They are looking for a site to hold their annual family get together.
 - Pat spoke with Mike Lynch and he advised that they could have Wagon Hill in exchange for about 20 troops to donate time for a project.
 - Committee was all for it
- Recreation Rambler
 - Greg is going to work on a snippet for the Friday Updates to get the P&R name out to the public
- Wagon Hill Hot Chocolate Gala
 - Sunday, February 8th the P&R would like to hold a Hot Chocolate Gala at Wagon Hill.
 - There will be no cost and will be open to all Durham residents
 - Need to contact Mike Lynch to plow some additional parking spots
- Jackson's Landing Trail Project
 - Grand opening will be in May
 - John wants all of the sign ideas to be finished by the March 19th meeting.
- Adopt a Trail: John
 - John will contact Jane Crooks to get the ball rolling on this
 - Would like to start training in March with Jane
 - He would like to the work to start in May

- Website: Pat
 - Going to contact UNH Communications, Marketing or recreation to see if a student could make a website for the P&R Committee
 - Also going to contact Karen to see how we can access it

Meeting adjourned at 2100 hours

Respectfully Submitted;

Patrick M. Houle