

**Durham Parks and Recreation Committee  
Meeting Minutes October 27, 2011**

Meeting started at 7:05pm

**In attendance:** Mike Sievert, Diane Moore, Sara Wilson, Sandy Devins, Mike Mengers and Dave Leach

**Public Correspondence:** Placement of granite bench at Wagon Hill Farm by group of residents who helped stop the Onassis Oil Company from drilling out at Adams Pt. in the 1970's. Money raised for the bench by the performance "Oily Vay" (**committee agreed it would be a nice addition to WHF as a place to sit and reflect by the water**)

Jean Olson: update/concern with potential dock placement at Mill Pond (**Diane will follow up with Mike Lynch and Jean regarding this email and report back to committee**)

Eagle Scout Christian Sbrilli funds to request for Wagon Hill Project (**committee declined to help with funds as remaining budget is allocated and committee has already funding several projects this year with the Eagle Scouts. Requested he come back to present in 2012 when we have a new budget.**)

**Approval of Minutes:** September 2011 (**Diane will finish the minutes from last meeting and we will approve at Nov. meeting along with Oct. minutes. Jenna Roberts is the current secretary but, she is resigning from the committee. We need to have a new secretary. Nobody stepped forward at the meeting to take on this role. We will address next meeting. Sara offered to take minutes for Nov. meeting**)

**DPR Director Report:** Sandy Devins

Wagon Hill/Timberland/Stone Church Event was a great last minute success. **Timberland would like to do another volunteer day for Durham. This is a great offer by Timberland that we need to respond to with ideas for them to help us. We need to think about some ideas and come back with a few for next meeting.**

Upcoming Events: Turkey Trot on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am with ORPP at Wagon Hill Farm (**Sara and Diane will work with ORPP to coordinate and run event. DPR committee will supply Hot Chocolate/Munchkins and ORPP will supply the feathers and community member, Tom Bebbington, will read the story. Diane made a motion to spend \$100.00 for this event. Mike S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.**)

Winter Carnival: **Will be held at Churchill Rink/Jackson's Landing this year. Last year there were issues with the pond (thermal warming) conditions were unsafe for skating. Date set for Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, Saturday from 1-4pm. UNH students will be back and we can look for volunteers. Dave Leach will assist in taking care of volunteers with Sandy through UNH. Sandy mentioned possibility of having ice sculpture carving at event. She has started to contact companies. We would have free skate at the rink/ a Chili Cook-Off and new this year Mac and Cheese Bake-Off. It was suggested that maybe we could have each Town Committees and Town Council/Fire Dept. and Police Dept. /Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, and other organizations that we partnership with to submit a dish/chili and have a table to highlight their work/efforts. Diane will contact town committees/town council to participate.**

**Sandy proposed a planning meeting in Dec. specifically to focus on Winter Carnival. Meeting date set for Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in DPR building.**

**Committee Member Reports:**

**Diane reported the Annual Report presentation to the Town went well. Sara and Sandy attended the meeting. Diane apologized to Dave Leach for forgetting to thank him when thanking current members of committee and past members that recently resigned.**

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Committee Member Reports continued:

Wagon Hill Sink: **Mike S. will sketch up construction plans and get a permit for the structure. Perhaps we ask Timberland to help build this for volunteer day.**

Durham Day Follow Up: **The temporary dock used on Durham Day is destroyed (rot/wear and tear) this was the last year it could be used. Mike Lynch had asked Diane about the committee looking at getting a permanent permit for a dock to be placed at Wagon Hill for kayaks/canoes (not motor boats, except for Durham Day). Mike S. will talk with Mike L. regarding what kind of permit we would need and what kind of dock.**

Stolworthy Trail: **Diane reached out to ORMS, Jay Richard, regarding Stolworthy Trail and the usage by the school. We are looking for a collaborative effort to maintain this trail and thought that with the ORMS use of trail/woods maybe we could work together to do trail maintenance. Diane met with Mike Lynch to have a tree branch removed that was hanging over from the trail/wood area into the school outdoor classroom. Mike L. had it removed quickly and we discussed further maintenance of area. We are looking to a spring clean up/enhancement project for the spring. Diane will continue work on this collaboration and will reach out to the ORHS as well since they use it as well.**

New Business:

**We need to switch November meeting because of Thanksgiving holiday. Diane proposed to change the meeting to November 14<sup>th</sup>, Monday at 8:30pm after we go to the Town Council meeting to support the increase in DPR director hours from 20 to 30 a week. Mike S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.**

**Diane mentioned that it appears our committee budget has been cut for next year (2012) as our funds have been switched to DPR Director budget. The DPR committee budget will consist of \$3500.00 instead of \$6,000.00 for 2012. DPR Director will receive the \$500.00 for marketing/public awareness and \$2000.00 for events that was requested. The Committee will receive \$2000.00 for properties and facilities and \$1500.00 for playground mulch. It was suggested by Mike M. that we need to re-evaluate paying for the \$1500.00 for playground mulch in our 2013 budget as our budget has been reduced. Committee agreed and Diane will reach out to Mike L. to discuss.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm