



Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
Monthly Meeting- November 9, 2022

The Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission held their regularly scheduled meeting on 11/9/22. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Marra at 7:40 pm.

Members present were: Treasurer Miriam Morrissey, Jan Edgerton, Nicole Desrosiers and Kristen Chasse. Members absent were: Leslie Sheehan, Sarah Kateley, Brandon Woodcock, Kevin Crosby, Grace Petroka, Elizabeth Taran and Dave Berardis.

Audience of Citizens: None

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Morrissey to accept the secretary report from August 2022; 2nd by Desrosiers. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: No report was presented.

Committee Reports:

- Holiday Stroll – The event will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, rain or shine. The evening will consist of a lighted vehicle parade, fire performers, gingerbread house contest, tree lighting ceremony, Caroling, find 'Maurice the Moose' contest, and other fun is being planned, such as a human sized inflatable snow globe. Desrosiers suggested recruiting some craft vendors (will speak to SOMA) to set up outside of town hall and also will ask the DRES PTO to do games outside in Veteran's way. Kristen will secure a gentleman to play Santa. Jones to confirm with fire department to transport Santa to Town Hall at end of parade. Parade will begin at 4:30 this year. Parade will begin again at Silgan Plastics on Bridge Street and proceed down Main Street to Devitt. The DR police are on board and have filed the highway use permit. Desrosiers and Jones to confirm with local merchants who will be open late and what they will be offering. P & R will make up a flyer to include all activities. Will also try to recruit the library to do something on the front lawn and the garden club too. The holiday stroll subcommittee might meet again before the event.
- Bus Trips- the trip to the New York Jets football game vs the New England patriots was a success. The weather was awesome and all had a good time. P & R offered grilled items and other attendees brought side dishes to share. This was a bus trip held on Sunday, October 30th. A coach bus was chartered.
- Halloween Event-will plan something new for 2023 as the trunk or treat event was canceled due to low registration numbers (6 vehicles).
- Scarecrow Contest-Desrosiers put together a map indicating all locations of scarecrows. Voting was done via text messaging. The committee would like to offer this again in 2023 but start it all earlier.
- Family day/5K/Pet parade- The event went well. The pet parade was again small with few participants. This year, the parade was part of the 75th anniversary town parade. If offering it again, need to do better advertising. 5K had adequate number of runners. Under 5 registrants for the 1-mile run, so the Commission decided to consider not holding the 1 mile run, next year.

- Other Programs-

- Women's hiking club was again well received. Have the last hike this week due to inclement weather. Will offer it again in the spring.
- The grades 4-6 youth theater program will not be held as the Director is nervous about the kid's preparation in regard to singing skills, since they have been away from singing in chorus in school due to Covid.

Parks report:

Water has been shut off at Plattwood Park and at Devitt Field. Playground grant has been awarded so the town is working on developing a master plan for Plattwood Park and Devitt Field so that new equipment can be purchased and installed. Plattwood park will be getting a new pavilion as well as restrooms. Jones working with camera company to install another two units at Plattwood.

Old Business/New Business:

- Event Calendar for 2023 will be discussed at the January meeting. Idea presented to then invite all groups and local merchants to meet shortly thereafter to make everyone aware of what P & R will be doing in 2023 and to learn what they will be offering.
- The meeting dates for 2023 will be decided in January 2023
- Jones reminds all that the annual budget from all committees is due as we must present the P & R budget to the BOS by end of December 2022.

Adjournment:

Desrosiers made a motion to adjourn. Olsen seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Jones, Director
Acting Secretary