



Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes  
Monthly Meeting- April 12, 2023

The Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission held their regularly scheduled meeting on 4/12/2023. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Marra at 7:15 pm.

Members present were: Treasurer Miriam Morrissey, Jan Edgerton, Nicole Desrosiers, Kristen Olson, Kayla Howard, Sarah Kately, Suzanne Sutch, Kristen Brennan, Carol Jones and David Richards. Members absent were: Leslie Sheehan, Siobhan Stack, Brandon Woodcock, Kevin Crosby, Grace Petroka, Elizabeth Taran and Dave Berardis.

Audience of Citizens: Molly F. attended the meeting to discuss potential pickle ball court locations in town.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Kristen Brennan to accept the secretary report from March 15, 2023; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Desrosiers. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: No report was presented.

Committee Reports:

- Easter Egg Hunt – Event feedback: well received event, attendees were thankful for it. People would love to hear the fire truck sirens turned on with the arrival of the easter bunny next year so that attendees are well aware the easter bunny is coming. Should consider the playgrounds and grounds getting a spring clean-up prior to the event next year because of the large amount of use of grounds that day, i.e. playground mulch in poor condition at event.
- Fishing Derby - Fish have been ordered. The derby is celebrating it's 40<sup>th</sup> year! Event date is Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 2023 rain or shine at Plattwood Park. Kristen Olson will check with Plattwood Park neighbor, Jim Olson, about hanging the net under their covered bridge at the east end of the pond. Desrosiers to share poster on Facebook. Ages for sign up of kids is 5-15. Kids are supposed to cast their lines themselves. Start time 7:30am, finish at 9am. Registration online on the Park & Rec town website or on site morning of event. Park & Rec will sell hot cocoa, bagels. No fishing from the beach. Desrosiers would like the committee to discuss the budget for future years.
- Music Festival – town meeting Monday April 17, 2023 at 7pm in Auditorium to vote on funds being allocated. Music Festival for year 2023 is cancelled, will start June 2024 if funds are approved. Requested \$75,000 of ARPA funds for 3 years. This is a music & arts festival.
- Summer Concerts - Desrosiers and Howard to design posters, including a QR code. Post information and poster in the Deep River News Shoreline Book and Valley Courier.
- Summer Camp – Registration ongoing; numbers are low at this point. Camp director position has been filled. Camp assistant director position has been offered out but have not yet received a response from chosen applicant. Discussion around a bill that is going fourth having to do with kids municipality camps, could be very detrimental to Park & Rec summer camp program locations and facilities if the bill passes.
- Other Programs-
  - Women's hiking club – will begin April 26<sup>th</sup>. 6 ladies registered, limit is 12.

Thursdays at 4:30pm. Ann Courcy will be the instructor/ lead. \$45 per person.

- Tai Chi – will be offered free to the public. No sign ups required. Thursday mornings beginning May 4<sup>th</sup>, 7am – 8am.
- Warrior in the Community Day – Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Groups of Valley students will be at several locations throughout town performing cleanup and other activities as part of the community service day. Volunteers are needed to be on site with the students when they are there. Inland Wetlands Chair has requested to trim the trees by the road at Plattwood Park.
- Earth Day – Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. DR Sustainability committee will be at the landing to help with a river front cleanup. The SECONN divers will return to dive and haul out debris and garbage from boat launch area from 12pm – 1pm. Deep River Land Trust is planning to do something as well. There is composting at 2:00pm upstairs by the Garden Club.
- Buddy Track – will take place beginning on April 27<sup>th</sup>. 10<sup>th</sup> year for this event. Unique learners paired with buddies performing track & field events. Need volunteers. Buddies must be 8<sup>th</sup> grade or older. Volunteers & Buddies need to fill out form on DR Park & Rec website prior to event.

#### Parks report:

Playground grant update: committee has put together mock ups to detail which equipment will fit where; these will be sent to Jacobson Engineering for review. There are funds for surfacing and edging as well. There are two funds: Pavillion, bathrooms, concession stand at Plattwood Park are separate funds than the playground grant money. There is discussion of keeping the old concrete pad at Plattwood and painting game lines on it. Question was raised if there is a plan to replace/upgrade the septic at Plattwood.

Discussion arose around upkeep of our town parks... why isn't the playground mulch refreshed annually in the spring? Consensus is that playground mulch is expensive and Selectman's Office would prefer to wait until new upgrades are complete. Committee would like to see plans in place to maintain the brand new playgrounds better, with power washing and mulching annually to help the equipment and parks last longer.

Devitt: playground equipment will be added to Devitts playground, the equipment is from GameTime.

#### New Business:

- Trail Day to promote clean trails
- Paddle Day with kayaks/paddle boards – could connect with Land Trust too.

#### Adjournment:

C. Marra made a motion to adjourn. Second by N. Desrosiers. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:66pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen Olson  
Acting Secretary