



## Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes

Special meeting- January 20, 2021

*Rescheduled from January 8, 2021*

The Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission met via Zoom and Director C.Jones called the meeting to order at 7:42 pm on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

Members present were: Dave Berardis, Miriam Morrissey, Jan Edgerton, Chris Marra and Sarah Ficca. Members absent were: Leslie Sheehan, Brandon Woodcock, Kevin Crosby, Grace Petroka, Sarah Kateley and Elizabeth Taran.

Audience of Citizens: None

Secretary's Report: No secretary's report was presented

Treasurer's Report: No formal report was presented. M.Morrissey mentioned revenue was significantly down from FY 19-20. Budget requests due to BOF.

### Committee Reports:

- Bus Trips-Jones reports that a Red Sox/Yankee baseball game has been booked for early June 2021. Broadway announced a June 2021 re-opening-unknown if we can get refund or ticket exchange for our canceled March 2020 trip. Commission decides to skip booking any new bus trips for 2021 as thought is that they won't sell out.
- Easter Egg Hunt- Commission votes to change the name of the hunt to 'spring egg hunt' to be more inclusive. J. Edgerton makes motion, S. Ficca second. Motion passed.
- Fishing Derby-Received good feedback from the way the derby was modified in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions. The derby was held over an 8-day period vs. one day. Due to uncertainty about safety protocols, the derby will be held the same way this year. Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Summer Program- Director and Assistant Director returning. Staff invited back. Assume still strict Covid safety protocols will be in place so camp is being planned with this in mind. Goal is to have camp registrations live by February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Summer Concerts-Concerts will begin on Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup>. Plan to have 6 concerts in total. Committee working on booking bands. No food is being planned due to Covid. Plattwood and Devitt will be the concert locations in 2021 due to their size.
- Family Day- hoping to hold the 5K and fireworks this year. Table discussion until future meetings.
- Theater Program-M.Morrissey reported that the youth theater program typically held in the fall through early February which was canceled might be offered as a 4 week program to grades 1-3. It would be held outside as a fair weather only program in the spring. More details to follow.
- Basketball Program- not offered this winter due to the pandemic will address the possibility of having a spring or summer program at a later meeting.
- Holiday Stroll-canceled. P & R did participate in the 'Light up Deep River' event sponsored by the DR historical Society and the merchants. Gave out ornament kits to

local youth to help decorate the evergreen trees at the Tri-town building.

- Carnival- canceled for June. Maybe look to make it to a fall event.
- Other Programs-C.Jones working on a walking program, a town and business crossword puzzle, a 'mystery spot' the elephant fun activity, a women's hiking program and programs offered through the CT River museum. Still working on a town dog park, a scavenger hunt and maybe a 'Jeopardy' on-line game.

#### Parks-

- Devitt-Town crew put new curbing near Devitt 'A' outside right field. Morrissey reported that the metal warrior head sculpture holding up the shelf near the 'B' field snack shack opening is not load bearing so it can be taken down probably without incident. Jones will speak to the Town Crew about this. P & R first addressed this when the warrior head was taken down at VRHS. The sculpture was installed at Devitt without the permission or authorization of the Commission over 15 years ago.
- Town Landing-docks are out. Gazebo has been scraped and painted by the volunteer efforts of the Woodcock family. The town paid for supplies. Jones to get garbage 'carts' pulled out of the park for the winter.
- Plattwood- Jones had garbage carts pulled out of the park for the season. Looking to pull the dumpster as well due to private dumping.
- Brockway Ferry-no report

#### Old Business/New Business

Report from the Halloween event-it was canceled but a group of members filled bags with treats and they were handed out free to families over two days at the Town Hall. Left over candy was arranged in baskets by S. Kateley and dropped off at the three schools along with a note to the teachers and staff expressing the appreciation of P & R. DRES sent a thankyou note to the Commission.

Election of officers for 2021. Chairperson, Co-chair and secretary positions are currently vacant. S.Ficca offered to serve as interim chairperson.

Location of meetings for 2021 was tabled as meetings will continue utilizing Zoom until groups can publically gather.

Budget for 2021-2022 due to the BOF. All committee chairpersons reminded to submit any changes to FY 2020-21 budgets.

Summer Employment opportunities for gate and life guards. Members asked to help spread the word.

Motion made by Morrissey to adjourn. Seconded by Berardis. Meeting adjourned at 8:52pm.

Next meeting of the Commission scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, 2021 via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carol Jones, Director  
Acting Secretary





