



Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
Special Monthly Meeting- July 26, 2023

The Deep River Parks and Recreation Commission held a special meeting on Wednesday 7/26/2023 to discuss Deep River Day 2023.

The meeting was officially called to order by Vice-Chair Dave Berardis at 7:27 pm in person and via Zoom.

Members present were Suzanne Sutch, Kayla Howard, Kristen Olson, Sandi Stroeter, Kristen Brennan. Members absent were: Chairperson Chris Marra, Treasurer Miriam Morrissey, David Richards, Nicole Desrosiers, Leslie Sheehan, Siobhan Stack, Brandon Woodcock, Kevin Crosby, Jan Edgerton, Leslie Sheehan and Sarah Kateley. P&R Director Carol Jones was also present.

Secretary's Report: No report

Treasurer's Report: No report

Audience of Citizens- Joyce Berardis, and First Selectman Angus McDonald.

Committee Reports:

- Deep River Day/5K/Pet Parade/Fireworks – Following feedback from community members, the P & R Commission opened up discussion about moving the location of the center of events from Devitt Field, as voted on at the regular meeting of the P & R Commission of 7/12/23, to a different location. Berardis made a motion to move the location, 2nd by Brennan. Discussion resulted in an idea to utilize, pending approvals, both the DRHS property and the DRCC green, known as Marvin field. Church Street would be closed to vehicular traffic. The Deep River Farmer's market as well as an artisan craft fair are already scheduled in this location. The Commission decided to augment these activities with more things scheduled for this space. Brennan made a motion to move the location to both of these properties pending approval by the DRHS and DRCC; Stroeter 2nd. Motion passed 6-0.

P & R would still offer the 5K road race that morning beginning and ending at Devitt Field and then Deep River Day activities would run from 10-4 at these 2 locations with merchants and the library offering activities.

Commission members divided up tasks to seek sponsorships and to talk to merchants. Jones will speak to DRHS and DRCC. Audience of Citizen's member- McDonald offered to explore bringing back an old-fashioned baseball game to be played at Devitt. Brennan suggested if not, then maybe a DRLL game could be scheduled. Audience of Citizen's J. Berardis will speak to the artisan group to find out what time they plan to be set up on the green, as the road race will be along Main Street early.

Different events were proposed to end the day, with fireworks, a drone show and a drive in movie being options. Jones will do more research on these options.

Sutch made a motion to adjourn; Second by Brennan. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Carol Jones
Director/Acting Secretary