

**TOWN OF DURHAM**  
**RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
P. O. B OX 428  
Durham Connecticut 06422-0428

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

The Parks and Recreation Committee met at Town Hall on Tuesday October 16, 2007.

Chairman Kate Mc Laughlin called the meeting to order @7:10 PM.

**Members present:** Kate McLaughlin, Carol Herzig, Ann Figoras, Linda Handley, Joan Bowe, Liz Cipollina, and Sherry Hill.

**Members absent:** Cheryl Salva, Karen Kean (alt), and Charlie Bray (alt).

Minutes from September meeting was reviewed and accepted.

The Halloween Parade will be held at Brewster School on October 27<sup>th</sup> @ 11AM. Sherry Hill and Kate McLaughlin will collect decorations and Liz Cipollina will assemble snacks. The custodian has been arranged for with his fee paid for by P&R funds. Sherry Hill is actively seeking special guest judges for the event and will investigate the possibility of decorating the evening before the event. A posting in the Town Times calendar section will appear the October 26<sup>th</sup> issue, possibly accompanied by a flyer.

Sherry Hill provided the job description outlining her duties as Recreation Director. All agreed that Sherry has a lot of responsibility and that her enthusiasm for the Rec programs and her long years of service are greatly appreciated.

Examples of signage for Allyn Brook Park were reviewed and discussed. All agreed that safety and enjoyment for all residents while on park grounds is the primary consideration for posting of any kind. Linda Handley suggested verbiage similar to what exists on the sign at the entrance to Peckaham Park in Middlefield. Sherry Hill will research this further and check insurance guidelines and legalities and will report back to the committee at the November meeting. Although further discussion was tabled until the next meeting, all agreed that the sign should be up by the spring and that a decision will be made at the next meeting.

Joan Bowe reported on her attendance at a Durham Library Board Meeting regarding the use of the library facilities for P&R activities. Durham Library, always an ally, regrettably cannot accommodate any “for fee” activities.

Liz Cipollina reported on her research into arts grants available through the Connecticut Commission of the Arts and through other NEA subsidized funding opportunities. Partnership Grants and Arts Presentation Grants are the options available and could assist

in future arts and music programming, particularly for the warmer months. Liz will attend upcoming grant workshops and report back in the future.

Detailed discussion of the Park and Rec budget will begin at the November meeting, with a special meeting specifically for budget concerns and approval to be scheduled for December.

Sherry Hill provided copies of the Risk Control Guidelines for Public Skate Park Facilities (CIRMA) to each member. Members will review the packet and further discussion was tabled until a future meeting.

The purchase of a “holiday suit” was approved. Funds were proposed and Ann Figoras moved for acceptance, which was seconded by Joan Bowe. It was felt that this would be a way to increase the festive feel of the occasion by acquiring a high-quality outfit that would be enjoyed for years to come. Liz Cipollina will research the purchase and will coordinate the details with Sherry Hill and Kate McLaughlin. The “ensemble” will make its debut at the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 @3:30 PM.

Funds were also proposed for Sherry Hill (Recreation Director) to attend the Connecticut Parks Association Annual Conference. It is a two day event and Sherry will commute each day from home. The conference offers the Rec director the opportunity to attend various workshops and informational sessions specific to the needs and interests of Durham citizens including sections on safety, training, and art, music, and sports activities. All agreed this was worthwhile. Joan Bowe motioned for acceptance of the budget exemption and it was seconded by Kate McLaughlin.

Joan Bowe mentioned the possibility of developing programs that would bring youth and seniors together. A knitting circle and bocce` league were two suggestions. Joan will speak to a few senior residents and see if there is interest. She will report back with her findings in the future.

**Upcoming 2007 activities:**

**Halloween Parade at Brewster School – Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 11AM**

**Holiday Tree Lighting on the Green with Santa – December 1<sup>st</sup>, 3:30PM**

**Next meeting: November 20<sup>th</sup>, 7PM.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20PM.