

**The Durham Recreation Committee**  
**Wednesday, February 25th, 2009 at the Durham Town Hall.**

Members present: Liz Cipollina, Mark Dionne, Kate McLaughlin, Mike Doyle, Cheryl Salva, Karen Keane (alternate), Brendan O'Connell (alternate).  
Sherry Hill, Recreation Director, was also present.

Members absent: Chris Manemeit, Anne Figoras, and Linda Handley.  
Kate McLaughlin called the meeting to order @ 7:05 PM. The minutes were read and after a few minor corrections, approved.

Sherry Hill reported that things are going well with all winter Rec programs. Team rosters are full and all facilities are in use. She is organizing spring and summer programs and a flyer will go out soon.

Alex Edwards, physical education teacher in District 13, was also in attendance. Alex runs a very popular summer Sports Camp and Tennis Program for youth in Middlefield. He would like to expand his program and be more inclusive and is seeking sponsorship. The committee thanked Alex for taking the time to explain his program. Further discussion was tabled until more info is gathered.

Karen Kean offered input on the condition of Allyn Brook tennis courts – they are in dire need of repair. Sherry reported that new nets will be purchased and suggested that price quotes for resurfacing be gathered, possibly having it done at the same time district 13 has theirs done, securing a discount. Karen will explore this option and gather estimates.

Due to snow and flooding, the playground at Allyn Brook Park is in need of clean-up, particularly raking and minor landscaping. Liz Cipollina offered to contact local ecology groups to possibly secure a volunteer effort. The Exchange Club will be painting the pavilion this spring.

Middlefield Park and Rec Summer programming will take place at Strong School for five weeks this summer due to reconstruction taking place at Memorial School. The program will resume at Memorial next summer.

Youth Nights will take place at Strong School on Tuesday and Thursday nights for six weeks this summer.

There will be two Teen Nights at Camp Farnum this summer. Mike Doyle reported that speedy progress is being made in upgrades to Camp Farnum including road improvements and pool upgrades. The committee discussed the possibility of using those facilities for future programs including open swim and senior swim.

Sherry was approached about the possibility of a knitting program being instituted in Durham. Liz Cipollina said she would gather info and seek out interested parties who may be able to run a simple session for beginning knitters, possibility inter-generational in nature.

Kate McLaughlin, Liz Cipollina, Karen Kean, and Sherry Hill plan to attend a Board of Finance Budget Review Meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup> and will report back to the committee at our next regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth S. Cipollina  
Secretary