

TOWN OF DURHAM  
RECREATION MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY MARCH 12, 2008

A Special Meeting was called by the Parks and Recreation Committee which took place at Town Hall on Wednesday, March 12, 2008. Chairperson Kate McLaughlin called the meeting to order @7:05 PM.

**Members present:** Kate McLaughlin, Linda Handley, Liz Cipollina, Anne Figoras, Cheryl Salva, Mike Doyle, Karen Kean (alt), Brendan O'Connell (alt) and Sherry Hill.

**Members absent:** Joan Bowe and Chris Manameit.

The primary purpose of the Special Meeting was to discuss the new components, layout, and installation of those elements at Allyn Brook Park. Adequate funds are now available and the goal is to break ground in April, completion of installation soon thereafter. Wes Lee of BCI Burke Company provided the committee with detailed plans and information on each component as per the committee's specifications. The committee requested certain playground equipment and a layout based on recommendations of various community members who have run programs and enjoyed the park with their kids over the years. Wes Lee had suggested a "station concept" which encourages maximum activity and enjoyment for families. Nine specific areas featuring a nice assortment of components including climbers, swings, and rockers are planned. Also, BCI Burke Company is installing two complimentary benches on the perimeter of the new playscape and activity area. Thanks again to Wes Lee for all his efforts in helping the committee come up with the plan for this exciting new endeavor that will serve area families for years to come.

The committee will coordinate efforts with the town to remove all the old swings and prepare the grounds for the installation. Motion was made by Kate McLaughlin and seconded by Cheryl Salva. The motion passed. Details for the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt at Allyn Brook Park were also discussed. The committee will meet on Wednesday, March 19th to boil and dye the eggs for the hunt (note: Durham is one of the few towns left in Connecticut that conduct their egg hunt with real eggs). The Easter Bunny will be present and prizes will be awarded.

Karen Kean asked that Park and Recreation meeting minutes be sent out to group members via the internet as soon as they are complete and filed with the Town Clerk. Sherry Hill said she would assume the responsibility.

Sherry Hill presented the Park and Rec Summer Program flier to the committee for its perusal. Two new items are added for the summer months. Teen Night Under the Stars which will take place on the grounds of Camp Farnam, also a Family Movie Nite to take place at Allyn Brook Park. Motion to accept the playscape plan and authorize the commencement of the flier. The flier will go to press and be sent out in the near future.

Karen Kean is researching bands for the Summer Concert series. Discussion on possibly changing the concert schedule, switching the last concert from August to September.

Mike Doyle reported that Lake Grove has a great "challenge course" that could possibly be used as a venue for a Park and Rec program. He will investigate this and report back to the committee.

**Upcoming 2008 activities:**

**Easter Egg Hunt at Allyn Brook Park at 9AM March 22**

**Next meeting: Wednesday, April 23, 2008 @ Town Hall 7:00pm**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Cipollina, Secretary

3/19/08

