

## **DURHAM RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> 2008**

**7:00 DURHAM TOWN HALL**

The Parks and Recreation Committee meeting took place at Town Hall on Monday, May 19, 2008.

Chairperson Kate McLaughlin called the meeting to order @7:35 PM.

**Members present:** Kate McLaughlin, Liz Cipollina (secretary), Anne Figoras, Chris Manemeit, Brendan O'Connell (alt) and Sherry Hill.

**Members absent:** Joan Bowe, Karen Keane (alt), Cheryl Salva, Linda Handly, Toby Bates, and Mike Doyle.

Minutes from the April meeting were read. Liz Cipollina motioned for acceptance. Chris Manemeit seconded.

There was much discussion regarding the hiring of staff for the summer rec programs. Applications for employment have been closed and the interviews will take place on June 1st from 11:00 AM till 3:00 PM. Sherry Hill will oversee the process and will be joined by Liz Cipollina, Chris Manemeit, Kate McLaughlin and Brendan O'Connell will round out the panel. The committee looks forward to meeting and chatting with all the candidates.

Funds were approved for the completion of the Allyn Brook playground renovation project. Child Scapes will receive \$26,130 for equipment and installation with the balance of the funds from the originally approved \$28,000 going towards mulch and other materials needed to round out the renovation plan. Kate McLaughlin motioned for approval and was seconded by Chris Manemeit.

The celebration for the new playground additions will take place on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Allyn Brook Park. Entertainment will be provided by The Aquatudes, a Durham-based surf rock band. Refreshments will be sold. A short dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony will take place with the honor of ribbon cutting going to a lucky child who holds the winning raffle ticket.

Much discussion took place regarding the proper wording for the new sign to be installed at Allyn Brook Park. Copy was finally settled upon and Sherry Hill will consult with the first selectman, the town council, and the insurance company before sending the copy to Sign Mart. (see attached). Anne Figoras motioned that under those conditions that the wording be approved. Brendan O'Connell seconded.

Maintenance for the bathrooms at Allyn Brook Park has been put out to bid. Sherry reported that initial and regular cleanings and replacement of paper goods will now be handled by a professional cleaning company.

Comments on the information given by Chuck Ramondo on skateboard parks were entertained. The committee feels that due diligence has been done in researching this issue and public interest been adequately addressed regarding this issue. The Parks and Recreation Committee therefore concludes that at this time we cannot recommend a

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skateboard park be constructed in Durham. Reasons cited were funds for construction, liability and insurance, and proper and adequate land for building a skate park.

The Summer Concert schedule for Allyn Brook park has been set and fliers will be sent home with district #13 children this week. It will also be posted in the Towne Times.

Up coming events:

**Next meeting – Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth S. Cipollina  
Secretary