Dover Warrant Committee

February 9, 2009

Members in attendance:  David Stapleton, Vice Chair;  Peter Smith, Secretary;  James Dawley;  Robyn Hunter;  James Kinder;  Scott Seidman;  Andrew Waugh
Others in attendance: Carol Lisbon, Selectmen Liaison; David MacTavish, Director of Park and Recreation; Jessica Cooney, Assistant Directory of Park and Recreation; Park and Recreation Commissioners: John Budd, Barry Cullen, Peter Davies, Richard Oasis, Nancy Simms

Mr. Stapleton called the meeting to order at 7:15 am

1. Review of Budgets — Park and Recreation

Messrs. Davies and MacTavish presented the fiscal 2010 budget. Owing to the tight fiscal environment, there will only be one capital item – replacement of a tractor – which will appear on the Town Meeting Warrant under Article 5.

The mechanics and requirements of the Revolving Fund, were explained, along with the field-use and other fees that feed into it. Some income, such as the rents at Whiting Road goes into the General Fund, not the Revolving Fund. Detailed accounting tying fees and expenditures to specific programs is deemed unnecessarily – perhaps impossibly – complicated. A hardcopy report for the second quarter was supplied before the meeting, but in a hard-to-read format. Ms. Cooney agreed to re-send the document as an Excel spreadsheet so that it could be re-formatted for easier reading.

Overtime, which is budgeted in excess of recent years’ actual expenditures, was explained as highly variable, depending on such factors as the weather, the number of skating days and nights at Channing Pond, and requests for maintenance at various town parcels: Park & Rec maintains the grounds at several locations beyond the playing fields. The item for Computer Basic System refers to Internet access, currently (unsatisfactorily) with Comcast, soon to be with Verizon FiOS. Defibrillators were donated for the playing fields, and coaches have been required to be certified in CPR. Enrollments follow a varying path dictated primarily by demographics and public/private school enrollment trends, both difficult to predict. A fee review with respect to surrounding towns is conducted each year. The annual brochure is funded out of the Revolving Fund.

2. Prior Notices and Reserve Fund Transfer Requests

Deferred

3. Liaison Updates

Mrs. Hunter (Regional Schools): Will discuss the budget on February 10.

Mr. Dawley (Long-Range Planning): Discussed the Selectmen’s charge to develop a plan for greater transparency in planning changes in use for Town land.
Mr. Kinder moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Smith; the motion was agreed by consensus at 8:10 am. The next meeting will be February 11 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Smith, Secretary

approved February 25, 2009