

**Dover Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting of February 4, 2009
Minutes**

P&R Commissioners In Attendance: John Budd, Barry Cullen, Peter Davies, Rich Oasis, Nancy Simms
P&R Employees In Attendance: Jessica Cooney, David MacTavish
Others In Attendance: Scott Seidman, Jim Kinder – Warrant Committee

Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from September, October, November, and two from December were accepted as amended.

Park & Rec. Truck Repairs

The Ford F350 required \$2,000 in repairs to the front end, specifically the replacement of the ball joints and some work on the front axle.

Field Use on Town Meeting Nights

P&R will not close ball fields on the evenings of Tuesday, April 28 or Monday, May 4 for Sherborn and Dover Town Meetings. (Sherborn's Town Meeting will begin at 7:30pm at Mudge Auditorium and will most likely be continued on Thursday, April 30 at Pine Hill School. Dover's Town Meeting will begin at 7:00pm at Mudge Auditorium.) Baseball and softball games scheduled for those evenings will begin an hour earlier at 5:00pm rather than 6:00pm. P&R fully supports the selectmen's request to make attendance at Town Meeting a civic priority. Nancy will collect contact information for the spring sports organizations (baseball, softball, boys and girls lacrosse, and boys and girls soccer) and forward them to the BoS so that the BoS can make their appeal for attendance directly.

Channing Pond

Dave happily reported that we have had good skating at Channing Pond thus far. As there was no skating last year, this is particularly exciting. A big thank you to the P&R employees who work overtime to clear and spray the pond for us all to enjoy. It is a town gem.

Brochures

Jess reported that she has received a lot of positive feedback on the spring/summer brochure. The printing expense was \$600 more than going solely black and white, and it seems well worth it. It is a very professional looking document and reflects positively on P&R and what the department is trying to do for the town. Jess saved significant costs by putting the brochure together herself. She also researched and found a lower cost printer which she used.

Caryl Rooms for New P&R Programs

P&R would like to offer additional programs but is somewhat limited by current Caryl Building conditions and space limitations. The ideas discussed were: a padded tumbling room where P&R could offer drop-in hours for young children and their parents as well as specific tumbling and movement classes for this age group and others; a dedicated space for wrestling which would be bigger than the room currently shared with the Tae Kwon Do program; appropriate space and storage for art classes.

Nate VanDuzer needs to be part of Caryl Building long-term planning so that his wrestling program needs are met. His wrestling program has been hugely successful thus far. He has two high school students who volunteer their time as assistant coaches.

The question of accountability was raised, and it was concluded that Carl Warnick is ultimately responsible for the Caryl Building as he is the town's building manager. He is also the person to contact regarding reserving rooms not under P&R control. This two-person set up is confusing and inefficient. Presumably in the future

when the Caryl Building is renovated, there will be a dedicated point person responsible for these aspects of the building. In the meantime, it seems logical for P&R to be responsible for the TKD/Wrestling room as those programs are both run through P&R.

It was suggested that one of the commissioners speak with a selectman regarding the “ownership” of the room across from Erin’s Dance Studio. These rooms would be ideal for programs under consideration for the Fall. Additionally, it would be helpful to understand the economics of the Caryl building; one of the commissioners will attempt to gather this information as well.

Club Getaway for ‘Tweens

Jess researched this overnight camp option (www.clubgetaway.com) for kids in grades 6, 7 and 8. The camp runs from August 17 through August 20 – 3 days and 2 nights. P&R would have to pay for counselors/chaperones to attend with the children (1 counselor for every 10 children) and for transportation to and from the camp in Connecticut. Based on past experience with bus transportation, Jess estimated that the cost for one bus would be about \$1,600 each way. The camp cost is \$161 per child and to that P&R would have to add the cost of the counselors and transportation. It was agreed that this was an option to be considered for next summer but not this summer. The addition of programs for this age group is a priority for P&R.

Miscellaneous

- It was brought to the attention of the commissioners that Sherborn Rec., in conjunction with the girls varsity basketball coach, Missy Traversi, is offering a four-day youth girl’s basketball clinic over February vacation. The cost is \$175 per person. Discussion was had about ways to better coordinate with Sherborn’s recreation efforts. A first step would be to invite the Sherborn commissioners to one of our meetings. Dave will reach out to Doug Collins who is one of Sherborn Recreation Commissioners.
- It was agreed to charge summer baseball and softball teams user fees to cover costs of field upkeep.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Simms, P&R Secretary