

SOMERS RECREATION COMMISSION

Special Meeting

February 18, 2008

Kibbe Fuller Community Center

Present: J.J. Wassmuth, Karen Murdoch

Non-Members present: Mike Provencher, Ann Piscotano, Dan Piscotano, Sandy O'Neil, Andrew O'Neil

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm**
- II. The commission members and the audience held an open discussion regarding the skateboard park in Somers. The discussion was based on areas needing further discussion and decisions in order to build a new skate park in town. The following items were discussed:**
 - a. Size of skate park - Dan and Andrew suggested that the new park should be at least as large as the previous park, which covered the area of two tennis courts. The group agreed that the kids wanting to use the park should put together a list of park modules and accessories they would like included. This would give the Recreation Commission a starting point for size and cost.**
 - b. Location – Mike suggested that there is an area at Field Road park between the gazebo and the sand volleyball courts that would probably be large enough for a park. Mike also suggested that the skate park could be lighted and the lights controlled by the timers for the rest of the park lights.**
 - c. Types of equipment – concrete equipment was discussed as having low maintenance requirements.**
 - d. Rules – there was discussion regarding how the park would be controlled; if membership would be required, if helmets would be required, if the park would be gated and locked. Polling of other towns with skate parks would be helpful in making these decisions. It was also discussed that the youth interested in seeing the skate park rebuilt would have to be responsible for helping maintain the park and abiding by whatever rules were agreed to.**
 - e. Funding – Possible sources of funding discussed included soliciting state senators and legislators, local businesses and fund raising events such as craft shows.**
 - f. Association – there was discussion of having interested parents and youth form an association under the Recreation Commission. By having an association with elected leadership, there may be better succession from year to year of individuals responsible for maintaining rules, registrations, etc. The parents and students**

indicated that there was sufficient interest to get a good working committee started to complete the project.

III. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

VI. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

name