

SOMERS RECREATION COMMISSION

March 3, 2008

Kibbe Fuller Community Center

Present: Colleen Maniscalco, Karen Murdoch, , JJ Wassmuth, Karen McGuane, and Alicia Albert

Excused: Troy LaMontagne

Non-Members present: Jen Charette, Mike Provencher, David Pinney(late arrival)

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.**
- II. Minutes: Minutes of February 4, 208 meeting read and accepted with the following change: ItemVIII. New Business.: “conflict with gym space at the high school between Varsity Boys Lacrosse team”.**
- III. Audience: none**
- IV. Old Business: Valentine’s Party a big success and well attended with an estimated 200 participants; the magician was well-received. Mike Provencher reported that the skating rink was closed again due to vandalism; the plastic liner was destroyed and the rink will not be reopened. This topic elicited conversation regarding the need for surveillance of the park to prevent future vandalism. Mike Provencher has information regarding surveillance cameras and other vandal deterrents and will share with the commission.**
- V. New Business: Two Recreation Commission members (Wassmuth, Murdoch), two parents and their sons, Mike Provencher participated in a meeting to generate interest and direction for a Skate Board Park Ad Hoc Committee on 2/18/08; a request to recognize this committee was submitted to the town selectman for review, but was left off the regular agenda and could not be put to a vote. The selectmen promised to place the ad hoc committee on the next meeting’s agenda.**

JJ Wassmuth requested that the commission place three top priorities for 2008 that will require further research and development; Karen McGuane will research securing a local college’s help from business students for the conduction of a recreation needs assessment survey for the town residents. Troy LaMontagne, Colleen Maniscalco, JJ Wassmuth and Karen McGuane will research development and potential for new fields in town; JJ Wassmuth, Alicia Albert and Karen Murdoch will head the Skate Board Park proposal.

Dave Pinney reported that it is unlikely that the recreation proposals for STEAP grants will be granted, citing projects that contribute to the economic development of the town will be promoted. The recreation projects will not be “piggy-backed” with the Somersville revitalization project.

- VI. Coordinator Report/Parks Update: The children’s library will take over the recreation building at Kibbe-Fuller by the second week of April through October 2009; all recreation programs and associations have been moved to the town hall and possibly Piedmont Hall with the exception of adult yoga, Sportsmen Association, and Tot basketball, which will remain at Kibbe Fuller. The Spring Recreation flyer will come out in the North Central News the first week of April. Jen Charette is still working on the Recreation Coordinator job description and will hopefully have it ready for the commission to review next month.**

Mike Provencher reported that April 1 is considered the official opening of Somers Parks. Friends of Tennis would like to start using the courts by March 16 for practice.

- VII. Correspondence: none**

- VIII. April Meeting Agenda: Update from town engineer re: new field land research.**

- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm (first motion Karen McGuane, seconded by Karen Murdoch)**

Respectfully submitted by:

Colleen Maniscalco