

**Town of Wilmington  
Recreation Commission  
Minutes of November 6, 2014 Meeting**

**Members Present:** Sheila Burke, Mike Burns, Mark Kennedy, Laurie Robarge and Deborah Cipriani, Director

**Member Absent:** Charlie Biondo

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

The October 2, 2014 meeting minutes were read and unanimously accepted on a motion by Mike Burns and seconded by Laurie Robarge.

**Director Cipriani's report:**

Canobie Lake Screeemfest tickets went very well this year. Tickets had to be re-ordered twice as 100 tickets were sold. Participants saved up to \$7 per ticket.

Saturday Night Lights was a huge success. This new Flag Football program had 97 registered in its first year. The Recreation Department received wonderful feedback on the program and requests to run it again in the spring. The only negative element was the uncooperative weather conditions.

The new Sports 101 class for children ages 4 – K was very well received. Students are given the opportunity to sample assorted sports and games.

Theatre trips to see the Lion King and Mamma Mia were great. Participants enjoyed the bus transportation and great orchestra seats. Mamma Mia had people dancing in the aisles of the theatre.

The return day trip to Pickity Place was terrific. The food was awesome including the cheese sampling at Smith Cheese prior to lunch and a stop on the way home at Colonial Candies for ice cream and/or chocolate.

The Murder Mystery trip was a big disappointment. The turkey dinner was good. Many people said it was very difficult to follow the concept of the show as well as enjoy their meal at the same time.

Many people raved about time at the 911 Museum during our New York City overnight trip. The museum was very moving and participants will always remember many of the images seen. Admission to the 911 Memorial was also included.

The new Viking Sports program for 3 year olds went well. Children received instruction on the basics of soccer. The program will be offered again but parents will be asked to remain outside of the room instead of participating and will be invited in the last week to see what the children have learned. This is the procedure in other Rec. programs. We have found that children are paying more attention to the parent than what is going on

around them in class. For safety reasons the change will be implemented.

Many students signed up for the Basketball Referee Clinic scheduled for Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, there is now a direct conflict with the High School Soccer teams advancing in Tournament games. An alternative date for the clinic is being investigated.

A Silver Lake wrap-up meeting was held between many departments in Town. There were 66% fewer calls /complaints received by the Police this year. People are still not happy about the \$10 non-resident fee. Day passes grossed about the same amount this year as in the previous year.

A break in the rain allowed approximately 575 children to attend the Horribles Parade on October 26<sup>th</sup>. A good variety of treats were received by all. The overall attendance was astounding as many single participants were accompanied by parents and several grandparents. This event is truly enjoyed by all family members. Debbie will be talking to WCTV about the possibility of tapping the parade. At one point the line extended from inside the High School all the way to the Public Safety Building.

In an attempt to lower the cost of the overall Yentile Farm Development project several items needed to be cut including the Sprinkler Park and Ice Hockey Rink. It has also been discussed to move the Dog Park and Community Gardens to a different venue.

#### **New Business:**

The Recreation Department has many upcoming Holiday events scheduled including: Swingle Jingle Christmas (12/2), Santa's Workshop (12/4), Breakfast with Santa (12/6), A New England Christmas (12/13) and Holiday Pops (12/14).

Bid specifications have been sent out for a trip to Quebec City.

The trip to Foxwoods on November 25 has been cancelled due to waning interest. The number of trip offerings will be significantly reduced next year. Some thought has been given to incorporate a show with a casino visit to attract a larger audience.

#### **Discussions:**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mark Kennedy at 5:45 p.m. Motion was seconded by Sheila Burke.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Laurie Robarge  
Commissioner