

**Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, 10.16.13**  
**7:00 Town Hall Memorial Conference Room**

Attendees: Chris Christensen, Kelly Valluzzi, Lorraine Lessard, Shannon Barnes, Laura Jaynes, Jackie Flood and Michelle Cushman

Absent: Dan Dwyer, Melanie Lesmerises and Christine Lavoie

Start time: 7:01pm

1 –Approval of September Meeting minutes were accepted with the following correction:

- Shannon Barnes made a motion to accept the minutes with correction– “Leddy Center for the Arts in Epping, NH
- Michelle Cushman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 6-0-0 to accept minutes with correction

2 –Director/Chair Updates

- There is no official Director but Kelly Valluzzi has been filling in until the director’s position is filled
- Chris Christensen thanked Kelly Valluzzi for all she has done
- Committee to interview soon
- Halloween Party from Kelly Valluzzi:
  - Included will be:
    - Merrimack Karate
    - Merrimack Police Department
    - Healthy treats and candy
    - 6:30pm is the costume contest
    - First Robotics Team does the Haunted House for Halloween
  - Girl Scouts hosting a lighted pumpkin patch
  - Games need to be run – P&R to help if they can
  - Haunted House
  - 5-8pm
  - Shannon Barnes to communicate to school to move Family Fun Night to a different night going forward

**Old Business**

1 – DPW

a. Ice Rink

- Chris Christensen updated the following:
  - Adam Jacobs did research was done with “Nice Rink” – company that sells supplies
  - O’Gara Dr. has ice rink that has plastic on it to protect it
    - Needs new liner
  - 2 parcels – do we want to continue with parcels or combine and make 1 big one
    - One idea would be to set aside family skate time if 1 big rink
    - Not big enough for hockey size

- If the tennis courts were added to the ice rinks then the size would be big enough for hockey
- Other areas that were looked at for possible ice rinks:
  - Old pool at Wasserman Park by Kelly Valluzzi is 85L by 55W
  - Open space when dining hall comes down at Wasserman Park
  - Football field at Veteran's Park was looked at by Chris Christensen
  - Soccer field at Reeds Ferry
  - Softball field at Martel's Field
    - Need feedback from Public Works regarding picking up and putting the rink back
  - Shannon Barnes suggested Bise Field as an option for the ice rink
  - Laura Jaynes suggested Watson Park
  - Shannon Barnes suggested soccer field at Greenfield Parkway
  - Shannon Barnes suggested that parking could be a challenge at Reeds Ferry in the winter months
  - Laura Jaynes suggested the area for the proposed Dog Park at Wasserman Park as a temporary site
  - Chris Christensen also called the P&R Committee in Westford, MA for information
- Lorraine Lessard questioned if there was enough room for parking at Martel Field
- Jackie Flood asked what is the ruling on the grant – what is current, what was replaced for tennis courts
- What to do with the tennis courts
  - 7 courts at Wasserman Park
  - Lease ends on O'Gara Dr. in 2018
- b. Sledding Hills
  - Kelly Valluzzi updated the following regarding the sledding hill at Weston Park:
    - Adam Jacob commented that hay bales freeze and are hard for kids to fall into
      - Possible suggestion would be ski fence, poles, and some bails
      - Cost needs to be figured out
    - If used Wasserman Park for sledding hills not much would need to be done

## 2 – Halloween Party – Friday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>

- Was already discussed earlier

## 3 – Holiday Parade – Sunday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>: Christmas Around the World

- Kelly Valluzzi updated the following:
  - Starts at 3pm on Sunday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Rain date will be the following Sunday
  - Should the name be changed
  - Shannon motioned to change the from Christmas Around the World to Holidays Around the World
  - Laura Jaynes 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
  - 6-0-0
  - Kelly Valluzzi to ask Chris Woods for flatbed
  - Floats and volunteers are encouraged

## 4 – Park Reviews

- Lorraine Lessard said they are not finished
- Chris Christensen asked for the due date by the first week of November
- Bring thumb drive or disk to the Town Hall P&R mailbox
- From the reviews, the P&R Committee will make recommendations to the DPW
- Lorraine Lessard volunteered to put a report together that will consist of the following for easy reference:
  - Name of park
  - Person who reviewed it
  - Recommendations

#### 5 – Dog Park

- Chris Christensen reported the following:
  - Town hall is working on the request for proposals for Forrester and logger and will go out soon
  - Friends of the Dog Park Committee are working on fund raising events
  - If someone would like to make a donation by check, they can make it out to the Town of Merrimack with Dog Park in the memo area and then it's a tax deduction

#### 6 – Wasserman Park Subcommittee Report

- Chris Christensen reported the following:
  - Report was finished (without pictures) by Chris Christensen, Laura Jaynes and Christine Lavoie
  - Next steps would include:
    - Engineering study
    - Water distribution study
  - DPW to look at reengineering beach to make it flat with a retaining wall to help with the erosion problem
  - Thoughts about theatre and function hall
    - Can these be expanded for other uses
    - Sounds panels are needed for the function hall
    - Architect's opinion is needed on how the deck and sliding doors could be used as the entrance to the function hall
    - Laura Jaynes asked about new work that was done at the function hall and theatre
    - Kelly Valluzzi said the theatre had fire and electrical updates and the function hall had fire updates

### **New Business**

#### 1 – By-laws review for spring 2014

- Chris Christensen reported the following:
  - Last review was 2007
  - Kristin Wardneris going back to figure out when by-laws went from 7 to 5 person quorum
  - Review by-laws in April/May of 2014
  - Final changes due in June 2014
  - Town Council approval in July 2014

- One by-law states: if you miss 3 meetings unexcused then you wouldn't be on the committee anymore
  - Holly Lewis therefore should be removed

## Updates

### 1 – Senior Citizens Club from Lorraine Lessard

- Italian Fest was a big success
- 10.19 – Annual Fall Fair
  - 9am – 3pm
  - Free admission
  - John O'Leary is the location
  - Vender tables are still available at \$25 for non-club members and \$20 for club members
  - Raffle and food – tickets will be sold for the raffle at Shaw's and the Tractor Supply Store
  - Friday from 1-4pm is set up for the white elephant
- 11.06 – Foxwoods Trip
  - Cost is \$31 per person
  - Open to the public
  - Sold out but put your name on the stand by list
- Annual Indian Head Resort Trip in November
  - Merrimack residents
  - Cost \$36
- A Classic Christmas Carol in December at The Leddy Center in Epping, NH
  - Cracker Barrel for lunch
  - Cost is \$35
  - Merrimack residents
- Meeting with Best of Times to discuss next year's trips
- To see upcoming events:
  - Go to Merrimack town site
  - Then click P&R's link
  - Then click Senior Citizens link
  - Then click E News

### 2 – MYA from MelanieLesmerises

- Melanie Lesmerises not present

### 3 – Town Council from Dan Dwyer

- Dan Dwyer not present

### 4 – School Board from ShannonBarnes

- Already discussed earlier

### 5 – High School Representative

- Need a representative

Comments from the Public was nothing

Comments from the Committee

- Laura Jaynes thanked Chris Christensen for taking the new role on the committee

Next meeting is 11.20.13

Adjourn around 8:30

- Laura Jaynes made the motion to adjourn
- Shannon Barnes 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- 6-0-0

Respectively submitted,  
Michelle Cushman