

Grafton Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2008

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Bob Fitzpatrick. Members present were Kristen Belanger, Stephen Crowley, and Charles Villee. Heather Cargill arrived at 7:10 p.m. Betty Wright, Recreation Coordinator, was also present. Gina Dalan was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion by Kristen Belanger, seconded by Stephen Crowley, to accept the minutes of the September 8, 2008 meeting as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

REVIEW OF BILLS - The bills paid since the September meeting were reviewed.

CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW - The correspondence was reviewed.

SOUTH STREET REQUEST

Betty received a request from a resident on South Street regarding Halloween. The resident wanted the Recreation Commission to coordinate donations of candy from Grafton residents to support their festivities on South Street. The resident explained that with the increased cost of candy, they needed some help. It was the general opinion of the Commissioners that this is something they would want to support. After discussing other options, i.e., sponsoring some sort of gathering on the Common, the Commissioners decided to explore this idea for next year.

SCARECROW CONTEST

The scarecrow contest is scheduled for Saturday, October 25 at 10 a.m., with a rain date of Sunday, October 26 at 1 p.m. Steve Crowley, Kristen Belanger, and Heather Cargill will help.

NASHOBA VALLEY HAUNTED FOREST TRIP

The Nashoba Valley haunted forest trip is scheduled for Friday, October 17. There are 46 people registered with 12 adults interested in chaperoning. The cost is \$25 per person.

MICHAEL URBAN, FARMER'S MARKET, 7:15 p.m.

Grafton resident Michael Urban discussed his idea of having a farmer's market. He presented an outline of the process, which is attached hereto as part of these minutes. After a discussion and agreement that this is a good idea and would be welcomed in Grafton, it was decided the next steps would be:

- Set up a time to talk to the Board of Health and Police;
- Have the Recreation Commissioners review the rules as presented;
- Formally approach the vendors; and

- Form a steering committee to get things started.

CAPITAL BUDGET

Betty asked the Commissioners for their input on items for the capital budget. Some suggestions were installing inside controls for the lights at the skateboard park; mulch at all the parks; a new super park; and paving at the Ferry Street park.

NEW BUSINESS

Betty requested all Commissioners to complete CORI forms as they deal with children.

Kristen noted that the swings at Norcross Park need to be adjusted; they are too high.

Charles would like to put an article in the Grafton News educating the public about voting no on Question 1 on the ballot in November. He wanted to add that he was a member of the Recreation Commission. After discussion, the Commissioners asked that he not include that he was a member of the Recreation Commission as residents might infer that it was the opinion of all members of the Commission.

Steve asked if anything was looked into regarding opening homes for tours during Grafton Celebrates the Holidays. Betty will look into details.

Betty gave the Commissioners a heads-up regarding her involvement in Hearts for Heat, a fuel assistance program for people under 60, which is in conjunction with the Grafton Food Bank and Grafton Senior Center. There was a meeting with Jeff of Sir Loin's Butchery. He wants to hold a benefit at the Highfields Golf Course on Saturday, November 22 to help with this program. Betty will update the Commissioners when further details are available.

Work is being done regarding Grafton Celebrates the Holidays scheduled for Sunday, December 7. Betty will be looking for help from the Commissioners.

Ski Ward has 11 children registered, and Mt. Wachusett has 7 children registered.

Basketball has 31 children registered.

October 20 is the Fall Town Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS - None.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Nancy M. Billings, Recording Secretary