

**TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

MINUTES – 8/4/08 MEETING---at the beach

Present: Kathy and Eric Roseen, Ted Bense, Mary Ann Murray, Paul Askew, Chris Sawyer, Tom Roseen, Amanda and Natasha Moody.

Acceptance of the Minutes

The minutes from the 7/7/08 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Old Business:

1. Snowshoes

Mary Ann has three more pair that have been donated.

2. Davis Field

Eric will drag the folded rink with the truck; the zambini needs to be re-located to the P&R shed at Davis Field.

3. Handicap port-a-potty

Grade stakes with flagging will be added to delineate the yellow lines for the parking space. Ted will submit a bill for reimbursement for the wood he purchased for the port-a-potty ramp. It should come out of the Beach Improvement portion of the P&R budget.

4. Pavilion

Paul will submit a bill for the loam he delivered for the May work party. In addition, he will deliver more loam just prior to the next meeting (9/8) because that area behind the pavilion is still low enough to collect water. A partial work party is scheduled at the beginning of the next meeting to spread the new loam.

5. Eagle projects

P&R needs to reschedule the date to take the picture of Chris Mancuso and the beach storage box once he returns from his summer educational program. Jacob Evans has started having work parties for the Copp's Pond bird watching station.

6. Swim Program

Eighty swimmers participated this year, which was fewer than the past couple summers. The first three weeks had superb weather, with the fourth week seeing more unsettled weather and storms. The Torpedoes swim team had four meets, three at home and one away at Swampscott Beach Club. Mary Ann had no luck securing a GWRSD bus for the trip to Swampscott because there were no bus drivers available. Instead, nine

families carpoled to transport the team, with Mary Ann subsidizing the gas for

them from the P&R budget.

Mary Ann would like to expand the swim program next year to include lessons at Melvin Beach. She proposed that there be a level 1,2 and 6 class at Melvin as well as Lifeguard Training. The Melvin docks have the deepest water for the more advanced classes.

7. Swim for Scholarship

Eight swimmers participated in the 7/21/08 event and raised a total of \$669 for the scholarship program. Ski for Scholarship is scheduled for Super Bowl Sunday in February, 2009.

8. Lifeguard Program

Mary Ann informed the Commission that there had been a diving accident at Nineteen Mile Beach during the third week of lessons. A young girl performed a 'sailor' dive from the dock (arms positioned along the body instead of extended over the head) and she hit her head on the bottom, snapping her neck back. An adult male witnessed her crying upon surfacing and he and another volunteer brought her into shallow water. Mary Ann was called from her lesson by another instructor (Amanda). Together they notified 911 and positioned the young girl on the backboard. She was transported to the hospital. The safety concern is that a victim with a possible head/neck injury should NEVER be walked in from a diving accident, but should be backboarded immediately by qualified personnel.

Despite the "No Diving" signs posted at the docks, kids are still diving. Kids have also been seen bringing bikes out to the docks and riding their bikes off the docks and into the water. In addition, even when instructors are present during the swim programs, kids have been seen to take one or two kick boards that are not being used, float it (or them) next to the dock and jump onto it (them) as if to 'surf'. Kathy has witnessed this several times and repeatedly spoken to the kids doing this. Not only is this wrongful use of town property, more importantly, this type of activity could very likely result in a head injury against the edge of the dock as the kickboard would fly out from under the feet, thrusting the child's body in a backward direction, ie: against the dock. All these activities would be prevented if there were lifeguards overseeing the beach.

Mary Ann proposed that there be two lifeguards at Nineteen Mile Beach on the weekends from 11 AM -6 PM. There should also be two lifeguards at Melvin Beach on weekends from 1-5 PM. She will bring this up at the next selectmen's meeting.

New Business

1. Davis Field

The small equipment boxes have been trashed. Eric will move them to the shed.

2. Ledge Hill flower triangle

Thank you to Chris Sawyer for stopping to weed the area newly planted with hosta and day lilies. She will look into putting a few annuals in to brighten it up for the end of the summer.

3. Gould Lot

The Commission discussed resuming work parties to create another loop. Eric will flag out the loop he identified last March, and Ted will contact the Cooperative Extension to get ideas about forestry management and how to maintain. We still need to blaze the existing trail and get rid of the very small sapling stumps that are still in the way for those who use the trail for a running/jogging loop. A late September work party date will be set at the next meeting.

4. Pavilion

Next meeting will be earlier in order to spread additional loam in the low area.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 8, 2008 at 6:00 PM at the beach pavilion (note earlier time).**

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Roseen

