

MINUTES FROM MARCH 7, 2007
COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

Present: Courtney Thoreck, Bill Marshall, Bruce Abramson, Peter Daly, Loralee Schaedel, Courtney Hale-Toon, Sue Weatherbie, Janet Hoskin

Absent: Catie Fairbanks-Cliffe

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Sue Weatherbie.

1. Minutes from the February 7, 2007; meeting were approved as emailed.
2. Adult Winter/Spring Program Update –
3. Winter Youth Programs– Many of the classes are wrapping up, with the exception of the fitness classes, which are ongoing. Due to sufficient interest, we added extra sessions of Magic of the Darkroom and Ballroom Dance. Classes that were cancelled, due to insufficient enrollment that had highly successful enrollments last year; were Women’s Wellness and the Parenting Class.
4. Youth Program Update: Sue shared a very positive email sent to her by a **Shawnee Peak program** participant’s parent. Kelly Phinney oversaw the program from “A to Z” and did a great job. Total enrollment was 100 plus students. The **Travel Basketball** season is winding down. We have received great feedback regarding the job that our volunteer coaches are doing. Sue has been answering questions from fourth graders doing feature articles on why the 4th grade doesn’t have a travel basketball team. We had 13 fifth graders who were able to practice and enjoy the benefits of the **Middle School Nordic Ski Program**. Leslie Young, Youth Program Coordinator, has offered a variety of new and fun **Early Release Day Activities** including: ice skating at USM Ice Arena, tubing at Seacoast Snow Park, movies at CineMagic, Jokers, and more. The ER Day enrollments are always full and the days are very hectic for the few Community Services employees. We were able to accommodate more students by adding more sessions for many of the **After School Enrichment** classes that had waiting lists. Winter Hiking was the only class cancelled to date. **Preschool programs** have been very successful as we are trying to offer more for that population. The Toddler Open Gyms are bringing more parents and children into the building and our programs. **Birthday Bash Parties** are doing very well with two-four each weekend along with several splash parties. **Girls Travel Lacrosse** is enjoying great numbers: grades 3&4 have 28,, grades 5&6 have 24. Very successful lacrosse clinics were put on by the Colby & USM girls’ teams for 40+ girls.

5. **Boys Travel Lacrosse** has lower numbers this year causing us to allow 2nd graders to participate in the grade 3&4 program. The 5&6 grade boys' enrollment is at 23. Parents are pressuring and taking on the program extending down to the K-1 population.
6. Extended School Care Program Update: The Kindergarten children will be participating in the MDA Hop-a-thon program. Our intention is to raise student awareness towards those with disabilities. Those who wish may fundraise, but it is not expected of them. We have moved all students off wait lists and are pleased to be operating with a full staff. Purchasing of snacks by our staff continues to save the program money as well as enable healthier choices that kids will eat.
7. Senior Citizens: The trip to Italy is two weeks away. Karen Allen will be leading the trip of 19 women. Also upcoming in May is a trip to North Conway. This has also received sufficient enrollment.
8. Pool and Fitness Center Update: Having adult full-time staff has provided for a consistent "regular" schedule. Students are still hired as lifeguards on the weekends and for swim lesson programs. We continue to field a few complaints from competitive swimmers relative to airflow across the top of the water. Commission member, Lorelee Schaedel expressed continued concern regarding the temperatures in the pool locker rooms during the early morning programs. For repeat participants of the Barnacle swim lesson program, the curriculum needs more variety and progression.
9. Welcome Packets: Discussion evolved concerning whether packets are necessary or do we simply refer new residents to the Town Departmental Web Pages. Commission consensus is that the printed packet was still a good resource and welcoming presence for new citizens. Courtney, Bruce, and Peter offered to assist Lorelee with gathering packet information.
10. Budgets: No further progression in the process as the Superintendent has been out on medical leave. The details of the Governor's proposal on consolidation is due out tomorrow.
11. Summer Program: Janet announced program dates of June 25 thru August 3, with July 4th off. Because the new school calendar has school starting after Labor Day, Community Services staff feels the need to assist parents by providing offerings that extend one week beyond the regular camp dates. Because the school facilities are not be accessible to us after August 3rd, a "Trip Week" for grade 1-5 students is being planned. Some ideas suggested include the Boston Museum, Red Sox game, Chewonki trip, a "do good experience". **Staff applications** will be available in approximately one week at the High

School, Middle School and the Community Services Office. We intend to interview all students with completed applications, during the first 2 weeks of April. Our goal would be to notify everyone of decisions by the first week in May. Sue presented a listing of new and repeat **CapeAbility Camps**.

12. Other Business: There won't be an April meeting of the Advisory Commission. The Summer Day Camp registration evening on May 10th will serve as the May meeting. The final meeting this school year, will be Wednesday, June 6th. As usual, a reminder email and agenda will be sent out.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Weatherbie
Secretary