

RECREATION COMMISSION

The Newton Recreation Commission is made up of volunteers appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Recreation Commission is responsible for providing Recreation programs for Newton as well as maintaining the town's Recreation areas. The Commission is made up of 7 members including one Selectmen Ex-Officio representative, Bob Donovan. The Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month in the back of Town Hall, meetings start at 7:30 PM. All meetings are open to the public. In 2009 we will focus on filling the Commissions open volunteer positions.

Town Beach. The summer swim program and town beach management was directed by Newton resident Jon Holden. Jon managed the Newton swim program as well as the town beach. In 2008 we moved up the start date of the swim program and limited the program to one session. In 2008 the Newton Boy Scout Troop 91 built a volleyball court at the Town beach. The scouts spent a few weekends to clean up the beach and trim the overgrowth and prep the area for the court. The Town thanks the Boy Scouts and we hope the volleyball court will get much use. The Recreation Commission worked hard to upgrade the beach in 2008. We cleaned out the shed and put in a new desk via a donation. We stained the picnic tables and installed all new cooking grills. We also provided the lifeguards with chairs. Goals for 2009 are to complete the beach clean-up and a bit more painting.

We want to thank the Newton Girl Scouts and Leader Yvette Nicol who organized and ran the Town Easter egg hunt. We would like to also thank the Newton Boy Scouts and Scoutmaster Mike Chassion for running a successful Town Halloween party. Newton Boy Scout Troop 91 has run this event for 17 years.

Newton Family Fall fair. We had issues with the weather and were forced to re-schedule the event twice. This year Recreation member Deb Holden led the effort to request donations from all Newton and area businesses. The business community stepped up and provided great assistance. The Newton Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts helped run events and cook food. Recreation members Nancy Slombo, Rick Bailey, Deb Holden and Lisa Babcock coordinated the events for this year's Fair.

2009 Goals. The Recreation Commission will focus on upgrading Greenie Park in 2009. We plan to purchase new playground equipment, benches and tables as well as new rims for the basketball court. We hope to receive comments and help from Residents for this effort.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rick Bailey, Chairman
Recreation Commission