

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 7:00 PM. All meetings are open to the public.

Town Beach. The summer swim program and Town Beach management was again directed by Newton resident Jon Holden. Jon managed the Newton swim program as well as the town beach. We had a very successful swim program with a well attended year end beach party.

Programs. Newton Recreation supports recreation events by providing funding to organizations that support recreation or organize and run events. We want to thank the Newton Girl Scouts who organized and ran the town Easter egg hunt at Memorial Elementary School. We would like to thank the Newton Boy Scout Troop 91 and Scoutmaster Mike Chassion for running a successful town Halloween party at the Memorial Elementary School. Newton

Recreation Commission Sponsored the Sanborn Regional High School after Prom Party (\$500), and Sponsored Sanborn Babe Ruth (\$707) for equipment. The Commission helped the Memorial Day Parade Committee organize the parade and funded the refreshments which were served by Cadet Girl Scout Troop 10042. Newton Recreation ran a Snow Tubing event in March at Amesbury Sports Park with over 30 participants and an April School Vacation activity at Leo's Super Bowl and provided discount Manchester Monarchs tickets and Water Country tickets. Recreation Members Deb Holden and Lisa Babcock ran a summer arts and crafts program at the town beach that had great participation.

Summer Programs. Newton Recreation works with local business to obtain discounts that can support recreation. Programs include Tennis, Golf, Surfing, and Karate lessons. We Organized a Mini Golf day and a very fun day at CoCo Key Water Park.

Newton Family Fall fair. We had issues with the weather again this year. The town turn out was low but the spirit of those who helped and attended made the event a success. This year Recreation member Deb Holden again led the effort to request donations from Newton and area businesses. The business community stepped up and provided great assistance. Recreation members Nancy Slombo, Rick Bailey, Deb Holden and Lisa Babcock coordinated the events for this year's Fair. Selectman Bob Donovan was a great help in having the Police and fire Departments help with the event.

Senior Programs. In 2009 we received funding for senior programs via a town warrant article. We were able to plan and organize 3 trips this year that were very successful. The bulk of the planning and advertising was handled by Lisa Babcock and Deb Holden. Trips included Foster's Down East Clambake, The Hobo Railroad and Hart's Turkey Farm dinner and a Holiday trip to the Amesbury Playhouse.

General. We contracted with David Marden Landscaping for field and grounds maintenance at Greenie Park and the Town Beach. Dave has done a great job in improving the look of the fields. We held a public meeting to discuss future plans for Greenie Park on April 23. Newton Recreation now has a logo. We held a logo contest and the winning design was submitted by Kathy Crossman. We approved 2 Boy Scout eagle projects one for Adam Nicol who built bat houses for Greenie Park, the Town Beach and the Busch Property and one for Kyle Kozec who plans to build a pavilion at Greenie Park. We participated in the Plan NH process in Newton. The Commission welcomed new member Michele Shepherd to Newton Recreation. After many years as a member and Chairman of Newton Recreation Rick Bailey resigned effective December 2009. Rick will continue to help promote Recreation in town.

2010 Goals. The Recreation Commission will focus on upgrading Greenie Park in 2010. We plan to purchase new playground equipment, benches and tables as well as new rims for the basketball court. We will be looking for help with these efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rick Bailey, Chairman
Recreation Commission