

RECREATION COMMISSION

The Newton Recreation Commission is made up of volunteers who are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The commission is made up of 5 members and includes one Selectmen Ex-Officio representative. Our meetings are held on the second and forth Wednesday's of the month with the first meeting of the month being televised. Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M and are open to the public.

The Commission is responsible for providing Recreation programs for Newton as well as overseeing the management and maintenance of Greenie Park and the Town's public beach on beautiful Country Pond. Our town beach was managed by our Swim Director, Lisa Babcock. Lisa, a Red Cross certified/trained instructor, directed all activities, including our longstanding swim program, as well as managed the swim staff which include the lifeguards and swim aids. Water safety is one of the most important functions of Newton Recreation and we thank the entire beach staff for all their hard work.

We were able to fix up the basketball court at Greenie Park and the skateboard park is still a work in progress. The Commission hopes to make some more improvements in the coming years which will make our park an even better place to play.

This year, Recreation focused on bringing new, fun events to our town residents. We offered day trips to Indian Head Resort for Lobster fest, a trip into Boston to the "Yankee Clipper", a tall ship sailing the inner harbor, and a special trip for our senior citizens to the "Spirit of Boston". We also introduced Movie Night Under the Stars at Greenie Park, and a Babysitting Night in December to give residents help in getting prepared for their holidays. Ice skating at Exeter Ice Rink was offered during the Christmas Holiday vacation. We are looking into more fun activities for 2012 so watch for upcoming notices.

Scouting is an important part of our community and we would like to thank them for what they do for our town. The Boy Scouts, Troop 91, held their annual Halloween Party which is always a big success. This year, we will be working with the local Girl Scout troops to organize their annual Easter Egg Hunt. Recreation would also like to recognize and thank Newton Baseball and Softball Association for all they do in our town. They organized and held the annual "Greenie Park Clean-Up Day" and give our children the opportunity to play "America's favorite past-time"; they also help with watching over Greenie Park and bringing any issues to the commission.

2011 saw two of our members say goodbye; our Chairman Pauline Dupuis and her replacement Jennifer Klopotoski. Pauline's dedication and devotion to Recreation was unsurpassed. She worked tirelessly to keep our park and beach looking spotless as well as working with community children to better the skateboard park and spruce up the basketball court. Her day trips were well-organized and full of fun and the participants enjoyed all of her efforts. Jennifer's spirit and commitment to her community made her a perfect addition to our commission. Her ideas were always inventive and great for all ages. It is with regret that our commission says goodbye to these two women. They will be greatly missed and we wish them well.

Respectfully Submitted,
Newton Recreation Commission