

Report of the Recreation Department

The Moultonborough Recreation Department remains committed to their mission – “To provide high quality programs and facilities that offer a range of healthy recreational and leisure activities to the Moultonborough community”. That commitment is reflected in our programs, projects, professionalism, volunteers, staff and collaborations.

Recreation Programs and events offered in 2013 were as follows (Participant numbers are shown next to the program or event listed)

Programs, Events and Trips for Adults and Senior Adults: Trips – Boston Flower Show (held in conjunction with Belmont Parks and Recreation)-51, Strawberry Banke-24, Portland Trolley & Len Libby Chocolatier-24, Cabbage Island Clambakes-39; Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum-13; King Arthur Flower & Simon Pierce Glass Blowing-41; Zumba-8, Gentle Yoga-13, Tai Chi-6; OAR (Operation Active Recreation)/Pickle Ball Club–summer-14; Pickle Ball–fall and winter held at the Meredith Community Center in partnership with the Meredith Parks and Recreation Dept.-22; Becoming a W.O.W. (Woman of Words)–2; Tennis Lessons-8; Walking Club–6; Edith’s Tourney Tennis Tournament-18; Adult Softball League -9 teams – approximately 140 participants. We also host the following groups Mah Jong-12-16, Bridge Club (summer only)-8 and Art Club-4.

Family Special Events/Trips - Pathway “Fund” Run and Walk held in conjunction with the Moultonborough Pathway Association-84. Annual Halloween Party approximately 200; Family Water Carnival-35+; Winter Carnival-40+; Touch a Truck 25+; Father-Daughter Valentine’s Dance-47; Manchester Monarchs-14; Portland Red Claws-24; Sledding Party-50+; CATCH Kick-off Night-25.

Teens and Tweens – Daily Drop-in Program-61-(two sessions); Morbid Mountain-9 American Red Cross Babysitting Class–11; Teen Night–21; Teen First Night Celebration–23.

Summer Concert Series – One of the goals of the Moultonborough Recreation Dept. in 2013 was to continue on our mission of revitalizing the summer concert series. This was accomplished with collaboration and sponsorship from the Lion’s Club and the commitment of a great volunteer working with Recreation staff. Volunteer Julia Velie sought out and booked local talent to supplement the concerts the Recreation Dept. had booked and helped to make the concerts a real experience. We ended up with a 7 concert, series with a variety of music styles presented. Ice cream socials were offered at some concerts and food vendors were available at others. Our numbers continued to climb throughout the summer – regularly drawing approximately 100-150 people to enjoy the concerts.

Summer Programs – Hot and Happy–6; Happy Campers Day Camp-62; RECKing Crew Day Camp-107; Teen Adventure-49; Tennis Lessons (youth)-17; Swimming Lessons-66; Speedy Swimmers-11; Childrens Stage Adventures-28; Kids Writing “Fun Shop”-3; Challenger Soccer Camp-20; Mini-Kicks Camp-6; First Kicks Camp-3. We hosted a music camp in July with approximately 10 participants. In addition the Recreation Dept. is an active participant in the July 4th parade and the Rec. Dept. budget funds the July 4th parade, town-wide barbecue and Moultonborough’s portion of the fireworks in Center Harbor as well as the holiday lighting.

Youth Sports – Basketball–136; T-ball and Softball-34; Moultonborough baseball players participate in the Lakes Region Cal Ripken Baseball League so participant numbers are not represented in this report. Soccer-168; Volleyball–10; Hershey Track and Field-53, Pitch, Hit and Run-5; Youth sport clinics– numbers vary; Nutty November-30+; Youth Sport Kick-Off – 20. Moultonborough youth athletes compete in “in-house games as well as against teams from neighboring communities and in regional tournaments. We rely on volunteer coaches and officials and train our coaches under the Coach Smart NH program. All youth sport coaches are background checked.

Other Activities/lessons for Children/Youth – CATCH Program (Comprehensive Approach to Childhood Health) –19; Figure Skating Lessons-11, Introduction to Hockey-16, Winter Bingo-19; Greetings from the North Pole-63, Vacation Movie Day-5; Cardboard Box Sledding Competition-13; “Winter Days” held in conjunction with the Moultonborough Central School -160, Karate (varies); Vacation Open Gym-13

Recreation Facilities – Providing and maintaining quality recreation facilities remains a high priority for the Moultonborough Recreation Dept. and is in keeping with our mission. As such two long standing issues were improved upon in 2013 – after much anticipation the rehabilitation of the youth soccer field at the Moultonborough Recreation Area on Playground Drive has been completed. In addition, collaborating with the Town Administrator a “Neighborhood Meeting” was held regarding the future of States Landing Beach in January 2013. The overwhelming consensus being that it is a valuable property. In May a States Landing Clean Up day was held with approximately 40 people showing up – to work and to explore ideas for the future of the area. With the growing popularity of “Pickle Ball” – especially among active adults – lines for three pickle ball courts were painted on the basketball court in early fall. We continue to work with DPW and the Moultonborough Pathway Association on retrofitting Phase II of the Moultonborough Pathway – thanks to DPW – the first section of the retro-fit was completed in the spring and is beautiful. All Moultonborough Recreation facilities – the Community Center, Moultonborough Recreation Area on Playground Drive – including fields, play areas, tennis and basketball courts, Long Island Beach and the Point at Long Island are all well used. States Landing receives less usage but we are on our way to remedying that situation.

Recreation Advisory Board – The Advisory Board’s mission is to be a bridge between the community and the Recreation Dept. Thanks to board members – Al Hume (chair), Celeste Burns (secretary), Carla Taylor (vice chair), Chris Shipp and Matt Swedberg as well as former member Morgen Gillis.

Appreciation – As always thanks to our over 100 volunteers who serve on boards, committees, coach, officiate, chaperone, supervise, instruct and help to maintain facilities; to the Public Works personnel for great cooperation on field, rink, pathway and other facility maintenance and improvement projects; to the members of the Moultonborough Community Services Team – Library, Human Services and a special thank you to Debbie Peaslee at VNS for over 30 years of cooperation with the Recreation Dept. Thanks also to the Moultonborough Fire Dept. for foaming our fields and other assistance provided and to the Moultonborough Police Dept. for collaborative efforts and providing assistance when needed. Thanks to the Moultonborough Schools and their personnel for a very strong school-community relationship and cooperation in programming and facility usage. Thanks to the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator for their recognition of the importance of public recreation in creating and maintaining a strong, vital community.

Special Thanks – A very special thanks to our dedicated year-round staff – Assistant Director, Dan Sturgeon, Program Coordinator – Donna Tatro and Front Desk/Office Clerk – Mary Bengtson and our energetic seasonal staff.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Donna J. Kuethe

Recreation Director.