

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of August 19, 2010
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order in the Selectmen's Office of the Town Hall at 9:00 am by Selectman Charles Hart. Also in attendance was Board member Peter Broderick.

Yvette Kuzirian and her son, Jesse, along with Police Chief Donald Briggs, were present to discuss an application to allow a public event involving live bands, a bonfire, camping, and other activities, on the Kuzirian property at 60 Depot Road. The event is intended to take place on August 21st, and the application for the permit was received by the Selectmen's Office on August 16th.

Mrs. Kuzirian explained that the event is planned to benefit her son Jeffrey, who was badly injured in an accident earlier this year and requires long-term, expensive care. That son organized a similar event last year and some of the other people involved had suggested the benefit concert. She noted that area businesses had donated items to be raffled and that there will be a \$15 admittance fee charged. There are expected to be fewer people attending than last year (approximately 200), and there will be 12-15 semi-pro football players serving as on-site security personnel. Music will stop between 9:00 and 10:00 pm and, because of dry conditions, the bonfire will be held only if there is rainfall before the 21st.

Chief Briggs asked if it's intended that this will be an annual event. Mrs. Kuzirian stated that they hadn't even planned to have it this year; it just evolved from some of her son's friends discussing how they could help with the situation. Chief Briggs advised that the 2009 event had gone well, that the attendees had all been respectful and well-behaved, and that they'd had no complaints from any Kingston residents.

Selectman Broderick advised that there has been a phone call from an abutting East Kingston resident expressing concern about the fire and about noise. Mrs. Kuzirian reiterated that they would only be having the bonfire if there was rainfall beforehand and that the noise hadn't been an issue for their closest neighbor during last year's event.

Chief Briggs suggested that there be one uniformed officer to direct traffic and to serve as a deterrent to attendees leaving the site while under the influence. There were two officers at last year's event, but he doesn't feel that's necessary. He also suggested that a cruiser be situated across from the site. Since the cruiser won't need to be running in order to keep the lights flashing, he suggested that the Kuzirians be charged only for the officer and not for the vehicle. Mrs. Kuzirian thanked Chief Briggs for that consideration.

Chief Briggs then advised that his recommendation in favor of the event and his suggestion for a lighter level of police presence is based on the success of the event last year. If this year's event leads to an influx of calls or to problems of any kind, that recommendation may change for the future.

Selectman Broderick then reviewed the general concerns for public events: The site will have three donated portable toilets, food will be standard cookout fare, parking and security all will be arranged as they were for last year's successful event, and the Fire Department will be inspecting the area prior to a decision about the bonfire and issuing a permit only if appropriate.

Selectman Broderick then noted that application for the 2009 event was made at the last moment and required an emergency meeting of the Board to review the plan, and that the same thing has happened this year. He asked that, if the event is planned again, the Board be given sufficient time to post a public meeting, arrange for the proper health and safety review, and discuss the plans with the family. Mrs. Kuzirian thanked Board members for making themselves available and apologized for the short notice.

Chief Briggs strongly suggested that Mrs. Kuzirian obtain a rider on her homeowners insurance policy to cover the event for potential liability.

There being no further discussion, Selectmen Broderick and Hart approved the permitting of the 2010 WTF Fest event and closed the meeting at 9:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Grant
Administrative Assistant