

Healthy Places by Design Community Forum Summary

Summary for:	Date: October 5, 2011	Time: 6-8 pm	Location: Davisville Elementary School
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COMMUNITY FORUM TITLE	Expanding Recreational and Active Living Opportunities
FACILITATOR	Peter Flinker, Dodson Associates
ATTENDEES	11 members of the community

AGENDA TOPICS

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PRESENTATION	Peter Flinker presented information on the topic of recreation and active living. A link to his presentation will be available on the project website: http://northkingstown.org/healthy-places-design .

DISCUSSION		
<p>Strengths of programs/facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation program (Al Southwick, funded in part by the town golf course, non-competing programs throughout town, programs for all ages and supplemented by senior center) • Shore line access (fresh and salt water) • Rome Point • Quonset Bike Path • Ryan Park • Wickford "Loop" <p>Weaknesses of programs/facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of individual sports • Poor access (crosswalks, lights, walkways, bikeways) • Marketing of programs • Handicap access for fishing • Canoe/kayak launch • Bike path not extended to Calf Pasture • Website with helpful info. for recreational areas • Recreation area signage • Awareness of Senior Center walking path • Nowhere to bike 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Road connection between Burger King and Wickford • Lack of swimming facility • Lack of skateboard places <p>Ways to get recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railbeds • Cocumscussuc State Park <p>What to explore at the Charrette;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sidewalks around schools, facilities and Post Road • Liability concerns of future plans for businesses/organizations • Cycling from Wickford Junction • Where small changes can make an impact <p>Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about problems and opportunities, and bring them to the charrette. (Nov. 4-10, 2011) 		
<p>DISCUSSION</p>	<p>Peter Flinker presented design ideas based on the conversation of strengths and weaknesses of our programs/facilities. Some ideas include the Power of Ten (“...any great place needs to offer at least 10 things to do or 10 reasons to be there.”), creating recreation partnerships and non-profit groups, allowing private rental concessions, and more. A link to Peter’s presentation will be available on the project website: http://www.northkingstown.org/healthy-places-design.</p>	

For more information about workshop dates, forums, or other ways you can become involved in the project, please contact Denise Kaplin, Healthy Places by Design YMCA Consultant, at dkaplin@gpymca.org. (401-295-6501) or Doug McLean, Town of North Kingstown, at dmclean@northkingstown.org. (401-294-3331).

The mission of the Healthy Places by Design Project is to strengthen land use, transportation and urban design policies and ordinances that guide the decision making process for the built environment to be more supportive of health, particularly as it relates to physical activity and healthy eating.