

NNERPC Conference 2024 - Speaker Bios



Colin Drury - Colin is a Co-Founder of the NXT Athletics Institute for Learning. A 501 c3 non-profit organization that focuses on supporting organizations with the goal of creating athletic opportunities that both enrich our youth and create a lasting love for sports or simply being active. Over the past 21 years, he has held multiple positions within our industry that have fertilized his drive to dive into youth development and how they best learn the sport, the lessons it can teach, and how best a child finds their path towards a healthy, active future. Colin believes that the path is through Parks and Recreation.



Rick Perruzzi - Rick has been in the Park and Recreation industry since 1994. He has worked in all areas of maintenance in Parks and Rec and then in 2000 became the sports field manager for the City of South Portland's Recreation Complex overseeing 25 acres of irrigated sports turf and 125 acres of non-irrigated fields. He held that position until 2017 when he became the Recreation Manager of Outdoor athletic facilities overseeing the scheduling and maintenance of the recreation complex. He is a Certified Sports Field Manager through SFMA and a Certified Park and Rec Professional through NRPA, a graduate of the Park and Recreation Maintenance Management School through NC State and NRPA, and has degrees in Environmental Science and Political Science and has spoken at state, regional and national conferences.



Jodie Lubarsky - Jodie earned her Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling at the University of Cincinnati. She is a licensed clinical mental health counselor in the State of NH and is Vice President of Clinical Operations - Youth and Family Services Director at Seacoast Mental Health Center, Inc. where she has worked for 16 years. She has spent over 19 years working in the New Hampshire community mental health system. She has been working with youth and families since 1997. Her professional focus has been on children's mental health needs, including but not limited to ADHD, anxiety, depression, trauma, grief, family conflict, separation/divorce, child abuse/neglect, child development, parenting, adolescent substance misuse, conduct/disruptive disorders, and Autism Spectrum Disorders. She practices from a cognitive behavioral perspective and has been certified as a MATCH-ADTC therapist by the Baker Center, an affiliate of Harvard Medical School.



Michael Moonan - Michael is a registered landscape architect with 26 years of experience in landscape architecture and project management with a concentration on parks and sports planning and design. Mike is an expert parks, sports, and recreation design professional and has managed all aspects of projects, from master planning and conceptual design to construction document preparation, specification preparation, and construction administration through to completion. He has worked on projects at over 30 public and private K-12 schools, over 25 community-wide parks and recreation master plan projects, and over 20 single-site parks master plans. He has completed roughly 130 parks a recreation related project over his career and has been very active in parks organizations over the years.



Pete Bingham - Pete has been in Parks and Recreation for 25+ years, *the* last 14 serving as Director of Cumberland (ME) Community Recreation Department.

Prior to serving as Director in Cumberland, Pete was the Assistant Director in Gorham ME, and Bath ME.



James Maimonis - is the Manager of Media & Communicants for the U.S. Tennis Association of New England. In his current role, he oversees all internal and external communications for the organization, including writing, reporting, public relations, media relations, email marketing, website and photography. His work directly aligns with the organization's mission, "To Promote and Develop the Growth of Tennis in New England." Prior to USTA New England, James worked as a local newspaper reporter and editor in the Boston suburbs, covering sports and town news.



Eric Driscoll - Benjamin (Ben) McElhiney joined the Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation in 2004 as the Assistant Director of Aquatics and since 2012 has served as the Director of Aquatics at MIT. In this position he oversees the aquatic operations for one of the premier aquatic facilities in the Northeast. In addition, Ben also is an Area Manager and subject matter expert for the Health Fitness Corporation assisting the company with management of



Cindy Hartman, Ph.D. - Cindy (UNH) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Recreation Management and Policy at University of New Hampshire. Her research focuses on identity development through informal learning and recreation programs that support postsecondary education and career transitions. She uses developmental and identity-based concepts as a foundation to communicate and collaborate with interdisciplinary research partners focused on adolescent and human development, including those working in campus and community recreation and activities, health prevention and counseling, education, and workforce development.



Donna Cutting - Donna Cutting, CSP, is the Founder and CEO of Red-Carpet Learning Worldwide and the Creator of the Red-Carpet Culture Club. She works with organizational leaders to help them create cultures of happy, engaged people who deliver exceptional service. Donna is the author of three published books including her latest *Employees First! Inspire, Engage, and Focus on the HEART of Your Organization* (Career Press, 2022), and *501 Ways to Roll Out the Red Carpet for Your Customers* (Career Press, 2015).

Donna's Learning and Development programs on customer service and employee experience are being used throughout the United States as well as in parts of Canada, South Africa, Australia, and Spain. Red-Carpet customers are getting results such as increased employee retention, improved employee engagement, rave reviews and repeat visits from customers, and other positive outcomes. Her focus is always on creating human-level connections and cultures of belonging, with a core belief that everyone deserves a little red-carpet treatment.



Donna J. Kuethe, CPRP - Donna served as the Recreation Director for the Town of Moultonborough for 41 years, retiring in 2020. In that role she was the first full time director, taking the department from a part time seasonal program with limited staff and resources, to a well-respected year-round agency reaching residents and visitors of all ages. She spearheaded growth in programming, capital facilities and community initiatives. She currently is the Project Manager for Operation Resiliency Response (formerly Operation Recreation Response) for the national non-profit, GP RED, which provides Research, Education and Development for Parks, Recreation, Land Management, Public Health and allied fields. As such she is the initiator of ORR – a GP RED Initiative that proposes a multi-tiered approach for Parks and Recreation Agencies to be prepared for, respond to and resilient re-building from disasters..



Molly Tobin - Molly began volunteering at Vermont Adaptive in 2018 and has since interned for both Burlington summer programming and Pushback/CORE Connections. Her love for adventure sports and helping others has kept her seeking new opportunities with Vermont Adaptive and she became the program coordinator for Burlington and Bolton Valley. In the Fall of 2022 she returned to the University of Vermont to start a doctoral program in occupational therapy but will continue with Vermont Adaptive as a part-time coordinator. She has experience guiding and teaching wilderness leadership courses and holds Wilderness First Responder, CPR and First Aid, and ACA Level 1 & 2 kayak touring certifications.



Kim Whatley, CPRP, CPO - Kim began her career in recreation as a Lifeguard and has taken every opportunity to advance in the field. Attending George Mason University for college she received her B.S. in Recreation Management with an independent study in Community Health and Wellness. The first three facilities she worked at in Virginia were all on cost recovery structures (Located in Prince William Campus for GMU, Loudoun County, and City of Manassas Park). Two of those facilities she helped through various stages of design, building, and opening/operations. While at those facilities responsibilities were not only for the aquatic areas, but also extended to front desk, center daily operations, and daily manager. After growing through these experiences Kim decided to take a chance and branch out to Georgia. There she has had many opportunities outside of her agency to participate in GRPA.



Norm Stauton - Before becoming a full-time staff member, Norm was a coach, volunteer and trainer for Vermont Adaptive since 2008 and was a contractor for the organization's capital campaign beginning in 2014. Previously, Norm spent 20 years in a variety of non-profit and adventure industry executive positions around Vermont and the world. He attended the Master's Program in Outdoor Education at the University of New Hampshire where he focused his research on adventure with people with disabilities. He holds a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Vermont, where he focused on sustainability and nonprofit management.



Eric Feldbaum, CPRP - Eric has been the Director of the Office of Community Recreation New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation within the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for nine years and resides in Concord NH. While living in NH full time since 2011, he has been continuously exploring all the great recreational opportunities the state has to offer.

He was finally able to land his dream job working for NH State Parks. One of his responsibilities is overseeing the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the State of New Hampshire as designated by the Governor. Since beginning, this role Eric has awarded over \$12 million to 40 NH local communities for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation program inclusion.



Andy Bohannon, CPRP, AFO - Andy is Parks, Recreation and Facilities Director for the City of Keene, NH. A native of son, Andy grew up in Wheelock Park attending the parks and recreation programs. He began working for the City in 1987 as a youth basketball official, and then worked at the pools, playground program, and as a building supervisor through his college years at Keene State. Since joining the city on a professional level in 2004, he has increased program offerings, established master plans, created pocket parks, improved the trail system, and created sponsorship opportunities, promoted Keene as a great place to work, stay and play.



Scott Hausler - Scott is a seasoned Parks and Recreation Professional with 35 years of experience, currently serving as the Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Hartford, Vermont. Originally from the Midwest, Scott's career journey led him to New England. With a passion for Special Event Programming and Facility Development, Scott has been actively involved in capital fundraising campaigns and the planning and implementation of various improvement projects. His portfolio includes fundraising campaigns, playground and park developments, experience with design and construction management of a multipurpose community center, and most recently a new outdoor aquatic facility in Hartford that opened in 2022.



Tim Michalski - Tim is the Assistant Director of Littleton Parks, Recreation, and Community Education. Originally from Pennsylvania he currently resides in Chelmsford, MA. Tim began his Aquatics and Recreation career as a lifeguard in South Jersey. From 2005-2012 he was a Recreation Guest Service Manager at Walt Disney World and most recently worked as the Aquatics and Recreation Director at Rocking Horse Ranch in NY. Tim is an avid outdoors man and plays a variety of sports.



Kate DeAngelis - Kate DeAngelis is the Therapeutic Recreation Specialist for Lexington Recreation and Community Programs. Kate began her career at Burlington Parks and Recreation as their Therapeutic Recreation intern and then moved on to be the Part Time Recreation Therapist. In 2019, Kate joined the Lexington Recreation and Community Programs department in a part time capacity as their first ever Therapeutic Recreation Specialist and began to build a Therapeutic Recreation division. After one year working for Lexington, the demands for programs and services quickly grew and Kate's position became full time. Kate sits on the Executive Board for Massachusetts Parks and Recreation Association as the Therapeutic Recreation representative and Education Co-chair and is passionate about creating inclusive recreation programs and community engagement opportunities for individuals of all ages.



Stacey Mulroy - Stacey has worked in Park and Recreation for 25 years. She began her career in Lincoln, MA, where she worked as the Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation Department for 18 years, before shifting to Arlington, MA. In 2020, she was named the Director of Park & Recreation for the Town of Needham, MA. Stacey currently plans and manages capital projects, oversees the pool complex and Summer Camps, and leads a department of 5 full-time and over 150 seasonal and part-time staff members. Stacey's passions are DEIB work and playground accessibility for people of all ages and abilities.



Greg Bisson - Greg has been in the Parks and Recreation field for 25 years. Greg started his career in the Town of Milton as the first Parks and Recreation director in the town's history. He left to join the Exeter Parks and Recreation in Exeter, NH, as the Assistant Director, where his responsibilities were programming and fundraising. He became Director of the department in 2018. Greg has been very involved with parks and recreation at the state and national level, having served two terms as president of the New Hampshire Parks and Recreation Association. In 2023, Greg was awarded the prestigious Wink Tapley Award from NHRPA for his contributions to the field. Greg is a graduate of Southern New Hampshire University with a degree in Sports Management and the National Parks and Recreation Association Director's School.