

Final Draft Harvard Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday January 9, 2017 @ 7:30 PM

Location: Volunteer Room/ Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 7:36pm

Members Present: Wyona Lynch-McWhite, Doug Thornton, Frank Culmone, Steve Victorson and Ed Frackiewicz. The 12.19.16 P&R meeting minutes were reviewed by members present and two minor corrections were made. Doug made a motion to approve the amended minutes that was seconded by Steve. Vote to approve was 4-0 in favor. Frank joined the meeting shortly after the vote was taken.

Field Updates:

Public Sculpture Discussion – Two community members who lost their son tragically would like to memorialize his passing with a dog sculpture on P&R land near the Public Library. They were previously turned down by the Library Trust. They presented a sample sculpture designed by Dale Rogers of Haverhill, MA. Approximate size of 4 to 5 feet in length that would be anchored with pre cast bolts in a concrete pad. While the Board was generally in favor, the following questions require more information and research:

1. Wyona – Need to confirm site for placement is P&R land – Doug to confirm.
2. Wyona - will collaborate with Library to determine for any sightline issues.
3. Wyona - asked Marc Thompson to prepare a formal request with placement diagram.

Eagle Scout Project – Evan Bilafer – Next up, Evan was introduced to talk about his proposed Eagle Scout project that would like to build a Harvard Soccer sign board at Charlie Waite Field. Timeline for this project supported by the Harvard Soccer Club is an early summer start with a finish by September 20, 2017. Wyona asked Evan for some details about size, placement and the need to make a formal presentation to the commission. The proposed sign would be 8 foot tall with a placement between parking lot and field access to the right of the parking area. Evan will assemble details and make a formal request at a future meeting. Board was in general agreement to the concept.

Ski Club 2016/2017 Update – Doug informed the Commission that the Ski Club had their first mountain visit on January 4th. No issues with buses or participants.

Doug and Wyona indicated that HAA Baseball and Bare Hill Rowing Club (BHR) will be making presentations at the January 23, 2017 Board Meeting. Subjects of discussion are Baseball about windscreen for Ryan Land Fields and Harvard Henley Regatta for the BHRC.

Beach Updates:

Steve reported that he talked to a computer friend and he doesn't see the need for the powerful computer that Allie suggested at the last meeting. He hasn't spoken to Allie about it yet. The idea of having two lap tops for registration was offered. More information about summer servicing needs and purchasing through Bromfield School or the Town should be explored.

Budget Updates:

Frank reported that he didn't have much recent payment activity. He did say he got into the SAGE website to review. Problem is that revenue gets classified without description as P&R other making it difficult to determine revenue source.

Parks and Rec Restructure – Review of response for Joint meeting with BOS 1/17

From Budget discussion we transitioned to outstanding Fin Com questions about projected spending for Beach director purchases including boat repairs. Wyona will respond but it provides a great example of the poor communication or understanding the range of responsibilities of this commission.

Wyona distributed a copy of her proposed Response to Concept Draft that was discussed and reviewed by members present. The narrative summarizes a collection of each member's thoughts of the role that a P&R Director position could best serve the current commission. An exhibit detailing the current Board member responsibilities was inserted in the document and it was thought that it might be better as a stand-alone page in the final submission.

Another comment questioning the intent of the exercise of creating this position led to discussing the perception of what we do against what others think we should do. Ed read the mission statement of Harvard P&R compared to Littleton's P&R.

Harvard Parks & Recreation Commission Mission:

Charged with the direction of town recreational activities, the Park and Recreation Commission is made up of five members elected to staggered three year terms. The commission oversees the organization and direction of the Town's summer and winter recreational programs, maintenance of the Common, the Town Beach and the playing fields, and the hiring of lifeguards and other safety personnel. Anyone seeking to post a sign on the Common must first gain the permission of the Park and Recreation Committee

Littleton Parks, Recreation & Community Education Mission:

A town funded department that provides year round high quality indoor and outdoor recreation and enrichment activities for children and adults in Littleton and surrounding communities. Our goal is to provide cultural, social, and athletic programs in well maintained parks and facilities.

Wyona will e-mail her final revised exhibit to members by 1/12. She asked that everyone review the revisions and be prepared to answer questions and add anything important when the commission will appear before the Board of Selectmen at their next meeting on Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 pm.

New Business - None

New Event requests - None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 1/23/17

Meeting Adjourned at 9:50pm