

Harvard Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Agenda
Monday, November 27, 2017 @ 7:30 PM
Location: Hildreth House

Present: Wyona, Doug, Joe, Frank, Steve, Bob

Meeting Minutes Approval-11/7	All	Discussion/Vote	7:30
Tabled until the end of the meeting			

Canoe/Kayak rack discussion

Two possible options were put out for consideration by the Harbormaster. He has tried to help manage this a bit but can't continue to take on that work. One option was to leave it alone and the other was to look at a rental system. We DO currently rent canoes and kayaks but no one takes us up on this. Another option is a rental system and comments on next door Harvard have given us some options for different versions of hybrid options so those are variations of option two. Option Three is now the all rental system that would come with some sort of key management system. Frank arrived during this discussion.

Community Input: Carl Noka voiced a desire to continue to keep a boat on the rack. HarborMaster mentioned that the islanders have a right. Smaller racks for the kayaks is an idea. Beth Williams shared concerns about how seniors would be ensured preference. Concerns about pricing, season pass option vs single use. Fred Silverstein shared his thanks to the Harbormaster for the time that he has put into this effort. Hoping that this rental solution would not require additional beach staffing. Holly H from BAB also thanked Bob and had some thoughts on the issue of heavy usage vs those who win spots but do not use them.

Steve arrived during this discussion.

Pam Erdos, one thing about this is promoting access which is truly supported. Being able to rent outside of traditional hours is appealing and very democratic. The bigger issue – possible need for a master plan for expansion and land use at the Pond. At one point, there were additional racks at Harbors Point. The HarborMaster says there is still a rack there but they were not very well used and this is not Park and Rec land – we think this may be Conservation Commission. The rental system would definitely mean an upfront charge for that equipment. We would also need to lock up the paddles and we would also need to purchase life jackets for the rentals. An additional comment from Next Door was that we could end up with more traffic on the launch area if we increase the usage with folks who are just going to come down and launch their own boats. There was also the suggestion of floating racks but this would cause us to exceed the number of berths that we are allowed to have on the pond. Wyona mentioned that concerns around boat launching and the cameras that we mentioned would be ideal before we considered any of these options. The Harbormaster mentioned that the key situation could also allow us to have a key for the gate to monitor launch usage and possibly parking.

Beach updates

No response from the beach director on the HR survey. We need to start thinking about the beach staffing and trying something more robust for next year. We might even consider housing like they do for youth soccer. 29 boats remain on the racks. We need to send out an email to those who have left them. Doug will look at the numbers and send out emails. We still have 6 impounded boats from last

season. Our beach permit is expired and the Harbor Master has instructed that we can't open the beach without a safety boat. The BAB rowers helped to clean up the beach during this past weekend's leaf raking in appreciation for

Field updates

Late season work on Depot has not been done and the ground will soon be frozen. The check from youth baseball has been received and Doug will be in touch with the vendor. The town payment schedules are not set but Frank can get this to David. The town Christmas tree is lit ahead of schedule, no idea who lit the tree.

Review of Park and Rec IT services.

No updates at this time.

Budget updates

Meeting with BOS/Finance committee. Frank attended the meeting and reports that it did not go well. There was confusion over the rate of pay for the beach director and some other issues. Following up on the meeting, Frank met with Tim and Stu that following Thursday so the current status is open and we will need to go back to Finance. Tim does not see a way to better reconcile the difference between Sage reporting and the munis. More than \$30K if our current revenue is un-coded in the munis. Muni's are fairly accurate for recording expenses. Frank will reach out to Stu to find out what we need to do next to get before the commission again. The next meeting will be a full budget meeting to discuss – a working session.

Event Requests and New Business
None to report

Next Meeting: Monday, December 4th

Meeting adjourned 9:38