

Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes October 16, 2023

Meeting Start: 7:30pm

Attending: Sam Levine, Anne McWaters, Matt Benway, Sarah Tate, Bob O'Shea, Marisa Steele (partial meeting), Suzie Allen

-Reading of preamble by Sam Levine

-Minutes approval from 10/2/23

-Benway motioned to approve. Tate 2nd. Approved 3-0.

Public Comments

-None

Rec Director Updates:

-Anne reported attending OSC meeting this past week. There was some tension towards P&R, so we will work to alleviate that. Anne is meeting with Liz Allard tomorrow morning to get P&R pieces of the Open Space and Resource Plan in place

-Anne looked into National Fitness Campaign's Outdoor Fitness Court – size of half of a tennis court, it has 7 zones and is designed for circuit training for people 14 and up and all levels of fitness. Cost of court - \$160,000 – there are grants to be had from BCBS for \$30-\$50K and then CPC money can be used as well as grants from MIIA. Concrete + installation = \$27-\$47K. Just looking into it to see if its viable here in Harvard and if it could be acquired by just using grants.

-Meeting on 10/25 with CPC to answer any questions on our submissions.

-Beach house will be winterized tomorrow. Anne to move paints into her office at the Old Library.

-Bob sold some old boating equip on GovDeals – P&R made ~\$750

Beach

-Matt reported that there is a lot of boat traffic right now. There was a bass fishing tourney this past weekend that would explain some of the weekend traffic.

-Bob mentioned that the gate is an issue. There has been discussion of moving it closer to the boat ramp. Would need to put an electronic lock/passcode on it.

-Bob reported that the request for money for ADA includes a couple of parking spots – that will need ConCom approval. Bob has a request in with them for the drainage changes (gutters, berm, etc) and wanted to know if the Commission wanted to include the parking spots into this one RDA or keep it separate? He and Sarah will meet on this.

-Town motor boat is needed to push docks out. There are still boats on their moorings. Right now the water level is ok. Boats have to be out by Nov 15 or whenever the water gets too low.

-Bob recommended that he, Sarah, and Anne go to the Pond Committee this winter and discuss what method to use for weed removal

Fields

- Marisa reported that one bid came in on the wetlands study. Marie is checking the references on that to see if this is a company that can work.
- Future Field Thinktank – nothing new has happened on that
- RL2 has erosion on the 1st baseline and needs to be dragged. Three Seasons will deal with that this week and do a quick patch on the erosion until we deal with the erosion in a more significant way. Anne reported talking to HYBSA about CPC money they applied for and were granted and whether they could use part of that to deal with the RL2 erosion and some issues on RL1. That has yet to be resolved.
- Upper Depot has been realigned and we will be resting the area in front of the goal by the parking lot.
- Bob wanted to make mention that the Gale study just validated what we already knew. He wanted it noted that The Press was wrong in its assertion that this was the first time this had been studied. Bob recommended that we ask other towns how they deal with high traffic areas. Do they lay seed on a regular basis after every game?

Trails

- Anne reported that she is waiting to hear from Marie Sobalvarro on how much of the P&R General fund needs to be allocated for benefits. This will impact how much (if any) we have to allocate to fixing the trail erosion.
 - The quote from Pinards to fix the washout on the trail was \$6500.
 - Bob suggested we request reserve funds for the washout from the finance dept.
 - Sam made a motion to go to the finance dept to ask for reserve funds for the \$6500. Levine 2nd motion. Approved 3-0. Anne will fill out the request and submit tomorrow.

Playground

- Sarah and Anne are meeting with Liz on Thurs to go over the RDA.

Ski

- No news on a new coordinator.

Next meeting 11/6

Benway moved to adjourn at 8:50. Levine seconded. 3-0 approved

Respectfully submitted by Anne McWaters