

Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes January 8, 2024

Meeting Start: 8:00pm

Attending: Sam Levine, Anne McWaters, Marisa Steele, Matt Benway, Sarah Tate, Bob O'Shea, Peter Civilik

-Reading of preamble by Marisa Steele

-Minutes approval from December 4, 2024

- motioned to approve. Passed unanimously

Public Comments

none

Rec Director Updates:

Anne has been working with Jim Lee from the Open Space Committee to personally contact landowners in town about potential donation/sale of property that could be utilized for additional playing fields in town. There has been limited response to date.

Fields

Marisa reported that the BSC study for the potential development of the HP woods is being finalized and P&R recommendations will be presented to the Select Board and public in the near future. Matt commented on the town needing to improve its overall athletic facilities by meeting the documented need for more and better fields. He also mentioned that the Town of Acton was able to pay off their turf fields within 4 years of being built.

Anne presented DPW with a list of tasks to complete at the Fields prior to snowfall, with the majority being finished.

Beach

Bob O'Shea reported on a study done by Solitude to manage the plant overgrowth at the beach's swimming area. Four options were proposed ranging from 5k - 40k. Anne will bring these options to ConCom and the Pond Committee to determine the best course of action

Trails

Pinard completed the work on the "jughandle" part of the HP trail which had washed out from the torrential rain storms this fall. Several culverts and drainage channels were built to divert the water from the main trail. Money for the project was obtained from Reserve Fund for unforeseen expenses.

Playground

2 New handicap benches were received in December and assembled by Anne & Rob McWaters and Marisa & Bob Steele at the Harvard Park Playground. A new gate opening was installed as well. Next stage is to be completed in the spring by Pinard which will include grading of the "driveway", drainage work inside/outside of the playground and handicap pathway from the bottom of the ramp to the new gate.

Ski

Ski Club started on Wed Jan 3rd. The High School Bus is full but there are a few more spots available on the HES bus. The registrations have so far covered all but \$40 of the bus costs this year (much improved over the big losses from the program last year).

Next meeting : 2/5

Steele moved to adjourn at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted by:

Marisa Steele