

Parks & Recreation Meeting
May 9, 2022

Call to order 7:35pm

Attending: Bob O'Shea, Marisa Steele, Keith Bilafer, Kevin Mitrano, Sue Reedich, Stacey Donahue (Planning Board), Nat Beale, Bill Johnson, Carol Lee, Larry Miller, Carol Landry

Minutes of 4/25 completed by Morin but could not be approved as only Steele, O'Shea could vote (Bilafer not present at 4/25 and Morin not present tonight, Lauria – has resigned)

Minutes from 3/7/22 Still not completed by Mitrano.

Pickle Ball (Sue Reedich)

1. Court time extremely limited due to no usage allowed during school hours or after school Tennis
2. O'Shea will check with Linda Dwight if some usage could be allowed during school hours
3. Options for alternate sites & funding for additional courts were discussed

Beach Operations (Kevin Mitrano, O'Shea)

1. Beach Director search – Unsuccessful search for 2022 Beach Director despite multiple postings. If no Beach Director, would not be able to have lifeguards or swim lessons at BHP.
2. O'Shea presented an option to share Beach Director with Devens Mirror Lake that is run by Marcus Lewis. Swim lessons @ Mirror Lake in morning with possible Boating lessons @ Bare Hill Pond in afternoon. Motion (by Steele) to make beach swim at your own risk for summer of 2022 and have sticker checkers monitoring parking/boating. See if alliance can be made with Marcus Lewis to share Beach Director for this season only. If unable to finalize an alliance within 2 wks, will need to forego offering swim or boating lessons this year. In either case, we would like to train our lifeguards this summer at lifeguard's expense, allowing reimbursement if said lifeguard works for seasonal employment at Mirror Lake during summer of 2022 or BHP summer of 2023. Motion Seconded by Bilafer. Passed 3-0.
3. Second raft floated off, has been re-found but with some damage. There is money in the budget to repair it this prior to July 1st.
4. Boat Rental is open. Use the QR method to set up your account

Fields Operation (O'Shea, Bilafer)

1. MOU –3 meetings (with DPW, TA, P&R, Schools) to discuss jurisdiction/budget of maintenance of fields. Final packet has been emailed to commissioners to review prior to Next meeting on Wed, May 11th.
2. Sports Counsel proposed to have quarterly meetings for all field users (HAA, HYBSA, HSC, etc) to discuss scheduling, field usage, structures upkeep, etc. This will be included in the MOU.
3. O'Shea noted that there are several teams outside of Harvard that have been using town fields and facilities (ex: AAU Baseball playing on Pond Rd baseball field, Parker Charter/ Ayer Shirley using track occasionally, HSC allowing use of HP field to other teams for neutral play to allow refs to stay at one field. If there is reciprocity for future use at outsider's facilities, it is agreed that no fee should be charged as with track usage & HSC usage. In the case of AAU baseball, hourly rate needs to be charged along with one-time \$5/head fee.
4. Insurance rider should be obtained from outside users. Mitrano will work on getting the riders
5. Deep Tine Aeration to be completed on HP soccer field May 19, 2022. Bilafer will coordinate with irrigation people to mark irrigation system ahead of aeration.

Track & Trails (Steele)

1. Pinard to complete mulch project in May. Date TBD
2. O'Shea will be speaking at Town Meeting to make friendly amendment to the CPC request for playground improvements. Money that was originally earmarked for the slide is no longer needed. Instead, P&R will use the money for other playground improvements that could include addressing drainage issues, perimeter walkway to handicapped swings and/or ADA accessible seating area
3. Steele to meet with Harvard Family Assn this upcoming to week to discuss collaboration on further playground improvements
4. O'Shea noted that several P&R picnic benches were moved from the beach during Covid and need to be returned there by DPW. There are several other P&R picnic benches outside at The General. Steele to see if any of these are appropriate for the playground.

Next Meeting: May 23rd

Motion to adjourn: 9:58 by Steele/ 2nd by Bilafer

Approved: 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

Marisa Steele

Commissioner, Parks & Rec