

Recreation Commission: April 4, 2022

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Minutes Approved: 5/24/22

Meeting began at 7:08pm at Town Hall

Recreation Commission: Drew McMorrow, Amy Smack, Courtney Bittelari, Scott Jamison

Minutes: Holly Mansfield

Mosquito: Sarah Hart – Meeting Recorded by Sarah Hart

Agenda Topics:

1. Review of 3/14/22 Meeting Minutes
 - a. *Motion: Courtney made the motion to accept the March 14, 2022, meeting minutes. Amy seconded. All in favor: Yes*
2. Public Input and Correspondence:
 - a. Suzie Shaw is a resident in town and inquired about the maintenance of the Rory Bentley Fitness Course at Banta Davis. This course was installed in memory of Rory Bentley who was a Carlisle resident and passed away at the age of 13.
 - b. Suzie noted that the fitness course needs to be refreshed. The cement footings are exposed, signs need repair, and ground cover is needed. The plaque with Rory's name is also very close to the woods and could be moved to a more visible location.
 - c. Amy and Suzie will set up a site walk to note the maintenance concerns and repair and maintenance of the facility will be discussed at a future RecCom meeting.
3. Field Maintenance Contract Renewal
 - a. Michael Hightower reached out saying there is an option to renew the current contract for an additional year. If RecCom was to extend the contract for an additional year, could the contract be amended to reflect the current inflation.
 - b. Tim talked with Town Counsel and the contract cannot be amended to adjust the increase in costs. If a cost increase is needed, then the contract would have to rebid.
 - c. Drew talked with Michael and the decision was made to keep the contract as is.
 - d. Amy has updated the Field Maintenance and Organic Maintenance contracts. The contract will need to go out to bid next year.
 - e. *Motion: Amy made the motion to renew the Field Maintenance Contract and the Organic Maintenance Contract for one year. Scott seconded. All in favor: Yes*
4. Pickleball Discussion
 - a. Scott looked at the space in the outfield of the softball field at Banta Davis. There is room to add 6 outdoor pickleball courts at this location. The fee is approximately \$200k.
 - b. Funding options need to be explored.
 - c. Scott also questioned if a study is needed to determine if this location is suitable for 6 courts and parking?
 - i. The idea to pave the parking lot at Banta Davis was also discussed. Paving the parking lot would help to maximize the space.
5. Review of Warrant Articles
 - a. The master plan did not support many of RecCom's recommendations. Amy did provide the committee with feedback in Fall 2021. There is not a lot geared toward families and recreation.
 - b. Article 19 regarding Lighting and paving at Concord/Carlisle High School. The cost of this project is \$850k with a 76/24 Concord/Carlisle split. No position taken on this article.

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- c. Courtney attended the Community Preservation Committee meeting. There was a total of five applications.
 - i. The five applications included
 - 1. Bog House Alarm: This application is to modernize the alarm system so alerts would be sent directly to the Police and Fire Departments
 - 2. Curve Street Dam: The request was for 11k to repair the dam.
 - 3. Castle Playground: The request for \$325k was approved. However, there was some discussion regarding the scope and size of the project. The application was approved with the idea that the committee would spend the funds as needed and then get reimbursed by CPC.
 - a. Recreation will take the position to support the Castle Playground project at Town Meeting
 - 4. Housing Trust: Looking for approval to move forward on properties as they become available in town.
 - 5. Dog Park: The request for \$30k was approved. There were some concerns with insurance and liability. The Stanton Foundation covers the 90% of the project with the CPC request for \$30k covering the remaining 10% of the overall cost of the project.
 - a. Recreation will take the position to support the Dog Park project at Town Meeting.

6. Software Update

- a. After a discussion at the March meeting, RecCom agreed that a new Registration Software would be a great benefit to the Department and supported working with MyRec to install the new software system provided the data security is sufficient.
- b. Scott reached out to Colin with MyRec and had a lengthy discussion regarding the software's security as well as transferring current information from the current software to MyRec.
 - i. After the conversation, Scott felt that we should continue to move forward with the MyRec software.
 - ii. Holly and Scott reviewed the contract and informed MyRec that we will move forward with the agreement. Holly will work with MyRec to set up the new software system with the hope of a complete install by July 1, 2022.

7. Dog Park Update

- a. Courtney will be presenting the Dog Park project to the School Committee on April 6th and will plan to go through the entire presentation to include a timeline of the project.
- b. Moving forward, RecCom will be sending a letter to the Mosquito for support of the Dog Park, Courtney will meet with the Dog Officer to get an account of the total number of dog licenses, Michael Hightower will provide an estimate for maintenance of the dog park and Drew will meet with the Board of Health to present the project.
- c. Courtney asked Holly to reach out to the Stanton Foundation to clarify water access at the Dog Park. Does the water need to be potable for drinking?

8. Banta Davis – vote to accept gift of enhancement from CCYBS

- a. Concord/Carlisle Youth Baseball and Softball have complete plans to enhance the softball field at Banta Davis. The plans include moving the outfield fence in to bring the field to regulation size, installing a scoreboard, adding covered dugouts, padding on the backstop, and constructing a batting cage and pitching run.
- b. *Motion: Amy made the motion to accept the gifts to improve and enhance the softball field at Banta Davis. Courtney seconded. All in favor: Yes*

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9. Playground Update

- a. The timeline for the project:
 - i. July: Dismantle the current structure. The committee is working with Holly to ensure that Summer Fun is not impacted entirely when the playground is dismantled.
 - ii. August: Site Prep which will involve grading the landscape, removing the existing ground cover, and drilling holes for footings.
 - iii. September: Build Dates are September 8-11 and then September 20-25. Volunteers will come in to install the posts, pickets, and non-structural elements.
- b. The committee is looking for 12 full-time crew leaders with construction experience as well as 100-200 volunteers for the build.
- c. Scott measured the kindergarten playground structure to see if it could be moved to Banta Davis. The structure will fit in this area provided the current structure is dismantled and removed.
 - i. This would be a costly project and Drew suggested looking into selling the structure and putting the funds towards the cost of the new playground.

10. Liaison Reports:

- a. School Committee: Drew will update the school committee with the softball field improvements as well as the Spalding study.
- b. Council on Aging: No updates
- c. Master Steering: Amy is planning to meet with Jack Troast and will have an update at the next meeting.

Next meeting: TBD

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:07PM