



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Park Commission

Dan Iacovelli, Chair
Rob Jackson
Don Howes

Parks Commission Meeting Minutes 18 June, 2015

The regular Meeting of the Parks Commission was called to order at 19:00 by Chair Dan Iacovelli in the Draper Room of Town Hall.

Present: Dan Iacovelli, Rob Jackson, Don Howes, Dave Guglielmi, Dorene Landry, Toby Booth, Stephen Benoit, Walter Swift

Chair Iacovelli moved to Agenda Items

Approval of minutes from 5/14 and 5/21 -

Motion made - Don, seconded, Rob, unanimous aye

Approval of minutes from 5/28

Motion made - Don, seconded Dan, unanimous aye

Discussion regarding Volunteer work

- Citizen showing concern from last meeting regarding Facebook post requesting volunteers
- Discussion regarding establishing 'friends of the parks,' volunteers to help out and be the citizen representatives for those concerns. Information gathering, volunteer work.

Action->> Post to parks facebook pages to request citizens looking to help out and contribute to the improvements of the parks, parklands, etc.

Discussion of Tree in Town Park - Walter Swift, Tree Warden

- White ash tree that's in center field, out from the Northrop st. side. Approx 125 years old. Concern is people sitting under the tree, passers by, risk of property damage. Tree warden recommends the tree come down.

- Some work has been done on the tree in the past, there is concrete that was used to fill in the cavities

- Secretary asked about anything to be done to save the tree, however, Tree Warden (certified arborist) believes that there isn't anything that could be done to save the tree. We could try, but doubtful

- Another tree next to basketball court was \$3000 to take it down. Parks wasn't aware - meeting was made with Don, Walter, and Steve Sette. Steve ensured he would find the money to pay for the takedown of this tree.

- Need to get estimate for tree, to submit to finance committee to find help for payment. Possibly bring it up at town meeting.

Action->> Chairman to reach out to finance committee to determine how to pay for the tree.

Action->> Contact JD Revell to talk quotes and the tree

MSDV to agree to have tree removed pending finance and funding - unanimous

Several other trees appear to be at risk, including one near the Little Red Shop, a maple tree near the bath house, and another tree near a power pole for the basketball court. Need to work with the tree

warden to get evaluations on suspect trees and a course of action.

Another tree for discussion is on town property but threatens a house recently purchased by Mr. Stephen Benoit.

MSVD - Provide permission for Mr. Stephen Benoit to remove the one tree, on town property, leaning over his house, pending approval from town council.

Action->> Chairman to notify town council to assemble paperwork with Mr. Benoit's legal council

General Landscaping

- Tree planting occurring around town park with work and mulch being donated by Swift Landscaping
- There is a request for granite around the town park entrance, need to get a quote for the granite
- There is a drainage problem near the tennis courts. There was discussion about using re-grind for the ground near the area near the impacted area, allowing the area to drain better than the loam that is there now.
- There is an ongoing plan to plant trees on the other side of the parks much like what we had done. Too dry this year so hoping to do something next year

Signage

- 3 years in a row, signs at the boat ramp, 3 years in a row people are stealing them. Desire to get more permanent signs
- Look at higher quality signs, similar to what the town provides.
- Need another sign that says ramp is for loading and unloading only
- Sign for rules of the pond and parklands. Need to come up with the words/signs.
- Two signs for immediate need, no parking and loading and unloading only

Action->> Don to talk to Bob from Highway about cost for the two signs

Soccer Clinic

- Same thing as last year, two soccer clinics at Philips field, 8/3-6, 8/10-13
- First session, grades 1-3, second session grades 4-8
- Same times and days of the week, 9-12
- John Smith Soccer center would like to do a clinic as well - Hopedale/Milford youth soccer, under 10 yr old
- Start second week in August, end November 1st regular season of soccer
- Games held Sunday mornings, ending before noon
- This year thinking of utilizing town park, either right of the basketball court or in the outfield
- Would like to do practices as well

MSVD to permit both approved

Friends of Historic Hopedale

- Application to manage a running race on 10/31 including the use of bath house and surrounding areas, plus two 20x20 tents/booths for entertainment and food afterwards
- 10 AM start time on 10/31
- May need to come through parks to get a slight extension for the 3.1 miles
- Need electricity, no running water
- Motion made by Don and seconded, **MSDV approved**

Electrical and Wiring

- Remove and reinstall panels in bandstand as well as replacement of light
 - We have budget money to cover \$1600
- Don made motion to approve up to \$1600 to renovate 200 AMP panel and lighting in bandstand

second by Rob - **MSVD unanimous**

Action->> Don to talk to Nstar regarding the electricity pole near the bathhouse

Discussion regarding moving town park lights and bathhouse lights to LED

Action ->> Chairman to find out new rules for going out to bid for new electric bulbs

Action ->> Don to follow up with Lisa to collect KWH used

Budgeting

- Call from town hall to call back funds - whatever is possible due to shortfall

Action ->> Chairman to work with town hall to identify a reasonable amount to give back

General Maintenance

- Refrigerator at bandstand needs to be cleaned after every event that uses the fridge, needs to be done by the park employee each time.

Motion by secretary - pay Rich Martin \$150 for the fridge that he has already provided to the park.

Seconded by Don

MSDV unanimous.

- Looking at hiring a temporary Janitorial cleaning service through October 1st without contract to manage bathrooms

- Need to see if the company will do one month at \$216

Action ->> Don to follow up with company to see if they are open to a month by month agreement.

Report from highway department liaison

- Advert for temp employee in Milford Daily news, Facebook, front page of town hall site

- There is a lot of work that we can assign to a potential employee

Buildings and Playgrounds around town park

- Some storage facilities/locations appear to be nailed shut. We need to investigate buildings/access.

- Need to replace some playground equipment for town park

Motion to purchase assuming we can use 2015 budget made by secretary, second by Don – **MSDV Approved**

Tennis Courts and Program

- Tennis program started this week, arts and crafts and last day of school tomorrow

- Court patch work is not yet done, the person hired is on another contract and has experienced delays. He should be in tomorrow

Pond Cleanup

- Grant application submitted for Mass DEP for \$320,000

- Sue Brower and Steve Sette were an amazing help getting grant application together

- Investigating other grant opportunities to help with cleanup

Chairman handed out guidelines and rules for meeting structure.

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned 21:19

Hopedale Parks Commission

*Moved, Seconded, Discussed and Voted ** Roll Call Vote

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