

Recreation & Parks  
May 16, 2023  
6:30p @ Community Center

**Attendance:** Derek Norcross, Linda Rice Collins, Matt Martin and Rossana Ferrante and Karin Ernst

**Approval of Minutes of 5/2/2023** - move approved, all-in favor

**Topics: Pickleball Discussion**

In attendance: Maura Dartley-Rocco, Todd Rocco, Sarah Fox, Joe McKane, Rich Newburg, Monica Tecca, Dave and Deborah Clarke.

- Pickleball discussion around sound mitigation. First phase quote for Vine St. side 35K Karin reminded the group that neither the School or Rec & Parks Departments has any money to fund this project.
- Discussion around the option of arborvitaes, Peter received quote for Vine St. side only from Corliss Bros. Nursery 32 - 5/6 feet tall-\$5400. A recommendation of 10 ft tall double row was made. Peter said a double row won't fit, and Corliss only had 5/6 ft. trees.
- Discussion on the use of quieter balls and rackets. Matt brought up how hard it would be to manage, Derek suggested that the Pickleball group strongly consider softer balls and racquets.
- Derek brought up Vets courts after 4 yrs. are in tough shape and reminded everyone one that the closing of the courts last winter was to help preserve the courts for longer life.
- Discussion on reduced hours of play once school is out on Vets courts since there looks like no available funding from all groups on sound mitigation. Motion made and seconded to make a formal recommendation to the School Committee of 9am to 5pm Monday thru Friday and 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday from June 24 – August 31 If approved by the School Committee , a sign will be developed and will include being courteous to the neighbors.
- Seaside Courts sound complaints were received and there was discussion of no lights for pickleball courts and new signage to include use of softer balls and paddles

**New Business:**

- Peter shared a plan for the shoe shed at Fountain Park from Becky Curran, A donation has been offered to build a Handicap walking path around the shed. There were concerns on erosion around the shed from trees and stumps that were removed, has it been mitigated? And any chipping of ledge needed with the location of the steps for Fountain Park. Tabled until next meeting.
- The Elder Act would like to put up a post and rail fence with chicken wire and a gate around their low garden beds no cost to the Department. Motion made and seconded all in favor.
- No word from contractors for repairs to the turf at Raimo Zone, Peter to follow up.
- Derek suggested picnic tables in honor or memory of loved ones. Replace the ones in disrepair. Wood option suggested.
- Derek shared that Tom McGovern wanted to get in touch with the Commission for permission to do a fundraiser to replace the surface and new backboards at Seaside Basketball court.
- Shattuck money was received for repairs to the Grandstand at Seaside.

**Park Update:**

- Beach is coming along, Staff will be over during the next couple of weeks to trim and get it ready for summer.
- Water is on in the bathrooms but not open yet because of no staff to work on weekends, will hire contractor to clean them on weekends so they can be opened for Memorial Day. If restaurant is open, then their bathrooms are open to the public as we pay the water bill.
- Talked with Bob Donovan about pavilion and Bob will talk with Bob Pappas we want the pavilion up before beach opens.
- Asked about different fees going to the town versus revolving fund, Peter explained how the parking fees work, Derek explained the town gets the rent from the restaurant, sup and float storage and Linda shared that we looked into an enterprise fund years ago for the beach and got turned down.
- Stramskis is coming along, they are finishing up plumbing in the basement and will continue upstairs. Teacher said he'll return in the fall.
- Lift contract sent out, once signed the company will come an look at site and install after sailing program.
- Lockers rentals will open, and porta potties will be removed.
- Park crew keeping up with the grass cutting. New wide area mower is a time saver.

**New Seasonal Hires:**

- Niall Kearny Seasonal Maintenance
  - Carter Laramie Beach Maintenance/Parking
  - Will Cronin Parking
  - Alexis Harper Parking
- Motion made and seconded all in favor.

**Recreation Update:**

- Jaime on Vacation

**Reynolds Playground:**

- Larz Anderson fund discussion around Reynolds Park/Bud Orne Rink. Taking the temp of the Commission on the renewed support in that direction. Rink is long shot and Commission feels that long term it is not sustainable. Rossana reminded us that according to the Trust, we are not required to do a rink and does not feel it is the maximum benefit. Motion made to revote because we have a new Commission on the proposal to direct the Larz Anderson funds for the Reynolds Project. Karin seconded. Discussion – Matt is concerned about flooding in 6 years, Rossana share that this is still preliminary, and Karin shared that this is the best information we have today and if the find new information comes out that Reynolds will not work then we change direction. Matt brought up Turfing Hopkins and Rossana brought up the support of winter sports. Karin in favor, Matt not in favor, Linda in favor, Rossana in favor and Derek in favor. Derek will reach out to the Select Board for a joint meeting.

**Correspondence:**

- Bud Orne rink Sunday May 21st 8am to 5 pm senior project street hockey tournament – fundraiser for child with cancer. Moved and approved. All in favor.
- Small wedding Sat June 3rd 3-4pm at Chandley Hovey. Address is in question – Tabled.
- Clifton Lutheran wants to use Chandler Hovey on June 18th 10:30 to 11:30. Moved and approved. Karin voted present.
- Wedding ceremony October 8th 3pm – 4pm at Crocker Park. Moved and approved. All in favor.

**Public Comment:**

- Discussion lead by Sarah Fox around Turf fields, Piper field, Village field. Cost and fundraising.
- Sarah Fox asked if the “Vote Yes” group wants to do an information session for the COA, how would that work? Karin said to go to COA and Matt agreed. Talk to Lisa Hooper. Linda said because we are responsible for the building it does go before the Commission. Linda said it was okay with us and Derek agreed since she was here, she could ask. Sarah stated a motion to approve an information session, pending confirmation of date and time from COA. Karin and Derek moved the motion seconded by Linda and approved. Matt questioned whether she could even make a motion. Sarah said anyone can state a motion, the Commission still needs to move the motion.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm**