



TOWN OF ACTON
RECREATION COMMISSION

RECEIVED
FEB 13 2012

MINUTES - NOVEMBER 8, 2011

7:00 PM

ACTON TOWN HALL
ROOM 126

ATTENDEES	Recreation Commission members present were Ms. Karen Jarsky, Chair, Ms. Betsy Mercier, Commissioner, Mr. Stephen Leo, Commissioner, Ms. Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director; Ms. Cheryl Getsick, Secretary; Ms. Melissa Settiani, Natural Resources, Mr. Joe Will, Acton resident and member of Acton Boxborough Youth Soccer Board. Absent: Ms. Bridget McKeever-Matz, Vice-Chair.
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AGENDA TOPICS

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 PM

Citizens Concerns: None to report

TOPIC: ACTION ITEM REVIEW

ACTION ITEM	TEAMWORKS is no longer interested in sponsoring a renaming of the Goward Playground but they have contributed a donation. Town Counsel was consulted and indicated that naming rights would require Board of Selectman approval.
ACTION ITEM	Ms. Cathy Fochtman will inquire about the historical significance of the "GOWARD" name. In the early years of Acton development a large agricultural fair was held at that location. Ms. Fochtman will contact Mr. Bill Klauer.
ACTION ITEM	Ms. Bettina Abe, Conservation Secretary will contact Fish and Wildlife regarding an evaluation request of NARA Pond. No response received as of recent.
ACTION ITEM	Acton 20-20 Meeting. In terms of Recreation, the Senior Center was a topic of discussion. The Senior Center Committee met on this project for two years and the committee was recently reestablished. Feedback from the community indicates the desire for a multi-generational facility.

DISCUSSION	October 2011 minutes reviewed
ACTION ITEM	October 2011 minutes were accepted as amended, 3-0

TOPIC: OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN 2012 - 2017

DISCUSSION	<p>Ms. Fochtman is working with Ms. Fran Portante, Cons Com member to narrow down what is actually required, such as rewriting Section 5 which pertains to Acton Recreation parcels. The Cons Com is now working on goals and objectives for the five (5) year plan. Ms. Fochtman has not yet heard back from the Cons Com. Section 5 update is a draft and contains a summary of the major resources along with an inventory of fields, their acreage and how these fields are primarily utilized.</p> <p>The Recreation Commissioners need to review this particular document and provide their input. This document incorporates the Recreation Commission's modified Goals and Objectives that were offered to the Open Space Committee in 2008. Particularly Goal #3 has been enhanced with additional points. The committee is looking for the Recreation Commissioners to update. Ms. Fochtman believes the current committee needs to agree to these Goals and Objectives or amend accordingly.</p> <p><u>Objective B</u> This Objective addresses changes to an environmentally friendly maintenance and routine caring of the fields. The details of these objectives will be addressed within Section 6 of the Plan.</p>
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ACTION ITEM	<p>Ms. Jarsky requested a copy of the OSRP survey questions from 2008. Bike path development was the top active recreation priority, and she would like to review how this ranking was posed in the survey. Bike Path development does not currently involve the Recreation Department, as the funding and design is currently in the hands of the Planning Department.</p> <p>Ms. Jarsky will develop a draft narrative for each of the Goals/Objectives for review by the Commissioners.</p>
ACTION ITEM	<p>Ms. Fochtman would like to receive a "Wish List" of foreseeable projects the Commissioners would like addressed over the next five (5) years.</p>
TOPIC: FRIENDS OF THE LOWER FIELDS DISCUSSION	
DISCUSSION	<p>This will be postponed and included in the December 2011 agenda for discussion.</p>

REPORTS:

DISCUSSION	<p>a) Elm Street Update – nothing reported</p> <p>b) Morrison Farm Update - nothing reported</p> <p>c) CPC – nothing reported</p> <p>d) School Street – nothing reported</p> <p>e) Playground Update – Ms. Mercier suggested a possible letter addressed to the Beacon requesting donations for the Friends of the Playground. Mr. Leo may also draft a petition for public support of the new playground.</p> <p>f) Open Space & Recreation Plan – nothing reported</p> <p>g) NARA Park Pavilion Update – nothing reported</p> <p>h) Recreation Operations Peak Software – nothing reported</p>
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NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION:

MEETING ADJOURNED TIME:	8:15 PM
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**Supporting and referenced documentation relating to these minutes are available on the DocuShare site; <https://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-1985>*