



**Town of Acton  
Recreation Commission**

JAN 15 2014

TOWN CLERK  
ACTON

MINUTES

DATE: JUNE 11, 2013

6:45 PM

ROOM 126, ACTON TOWN HALL

**ATTENDEES**

Recreation Commission members present were Ms. Karen Jarsky, Chair, Ms. Bridget McKeever-Matz, Vice-Chair, Ms. Betsy Mercier, Commissioner, Mr. Joe Will, Commissioner, Ms. Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director, Ms. Melissa Rier, Natural Resources, Ms. Cheryl Getsick, Recreation Secretary, Maria Parodos, Citizen (Friends of the Playground); Elizabeth Crowley, Citizen (Friends of the Playground). Mr. Steve Leo, Commissioner (late arrival).

**AGENDA TOPICS**

**Meeting called to order at: 6:45 PM**

**Citizens Concerns:** Single mom requested a couples vs family rate. Couples is for two adults. Family is for a household with adults and one or more children.

**Action Item:** Ms. Fochtman will find and compare how our fees compare to other towns

**CONSENT AGENDA**

DISCUSSION      May 2013 minutes

ACTION ITEM      May 2013 minutes were accepted as amended, 4-0

**TOPIC: Action Item Review**

DISCUSSION      Nothing reviewed.

**TOPIC: GOWARD PLAYGROUND**

DISCUSSION

Ms. Fochtman displayed an Engineering Department grading plan for the layout for the playground. Mr. Redmond who is volunteering his services, has been excavating and rebuilding the subsurface. There is a plan to channel runoff to a new drain. A two percent (2%) grade level must be maintained. The slopes will need to be determined from the lawn down to the playground. A Locust tree was causing problems with the slope. The Town Tree Warden, Mr. Dean Charter of Municipal Properties recommended that it be removed. Roots which were exposed and soil erosion were safety hazards that contributed to the decision to remove the tree.  
*Acton Item:* Ms. Fochtman will meet with Mr. Redmond and crew regarding the removal of any further tree.

**TOPIC: ELM STREET UPDATE**

DISCUSSION

Ms. Fochtman reports she has met with the Gabrielli family. Acton Adult Softball has collaborated with Acton Recreation on signage at Elm Street with behavioral expectations that will be posted. Acton Adult Softball is requesting Sunday use of Elm Street and the Gabrielli's are requesting improved league behavior.

**TOPIC: NARA IMPROVEMENTS**

DISCUSSION

Ms. Fochtman reported an upgrading of the bathhouse exterior which was cleaned and pressure washed prior to being stained. The bathrooms were upgraded with new stalls and toilets along with new faucet heaters. The amphitheater outside electrical cage has now been enclosed. Design funding for a NARA comfort station was also approved. The Miracle Field team members along with AASL also interested in the design of the station.

**REPORTS:**

DISCUSSION

- a) **Miracle Field:** The 5K Funfest is scheduled to occur on Fathers Day. This is always a well attended event
- b) **Community Preservation Committee:** The Anderson parcel purchase passed at Town Meeting.
- c) **School Street:** Nothing to report
- d) **Playground Update:** Conservation Committee granted permission for Elm Street playground renovations near surrounding wetlands.
- e) **Open Space & Recreation Plan:** Will be going to print soon
- f) **NARA Park Pavilion Update:** The bid deadline has passed and nine (9) bids were received.
- g) **Recreation Operations:** There has only been one beach closure after a storm.
- h) **T.J. O'Grady Skate Park:** Replacement of some fabricated ramps with concrete has been completed. Signage designated Skate park Parking Only needs to be posted.

**NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION – MS. BRIDGET MCKEEVER-MATZ, VICE-CHAIR HAS AGREED TO BECOME THE OFFICIAL CHAIR EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. APPROVED 5-0**

MEETING ADJOURNED TIME:      9:05 PM

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