



Town of Acton Recreation Commission

MINUTES
DATE: DECEMBER 17, 2014

ROOM 121, ACTON TOWN HALL

ATTENDEES	Recreation Commission members present were Ms. Bridget McKeever-Matz, Chair, Ms. Betsy Mercier, Commissioner, Mr. Joe Will, Commissioner, Ms. Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director, Ms. Melissa Rier, Natural Resources, Ms. Nancy Gerhardt, Citizen
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AGENDA TOPICS - Meeting called to order 9:00 AM

TOPIC: CITIZENS CONCERNS

DISCUSSION	Ms. Fochtman received a call about the work recently done at the School Street Fields. Last month, a teenager drove his vehicle on the fields and damaged the turf. A neighbor had smelled the compost and was concerned that sewage was on the field. Ms. Fochtman explained what had happened to the fields and had hired a contractor to fix the damage.
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CONSENT AGENDA

DISCUSSION	November 10, 2014 minutes
ACTION ITEM	November 10, 2014 minutes accepted as amended, 3-0

TOPIC: Action Item Review: The model airplane club from Concord is trying to promote proper etiquette of flying electric remote control planes by not disturbing the other users of the School Street Fields.

TOPIC: JONES PLAYGROUND

DISCUSSION	The Recreation Department is looking for support from the community to start a renovation project at Jones Playground. The biggest concern with this site is that it's located right next to the river that often floods. Ms. Rier met with a playground designer, Mr. John LaRue, last week to talk about the renovation process.
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TOPIC: SUMMER CONCERTS AND EVENTS

DISCUSSION	Ms. Maura Haberman, the Events & Program Coordinator, scheduled all the events for 2015, starting in January and running through October. Ms. Haberman put together promotional packages and sent them out to community businesses for sponsorship of the recreational events.
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REPORTS:

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) NARA Pavilion – Ms. Fochtman met with the builder and there were a few smaller fixes left that have been resolved. In terms of landscaping, Ms. Fochtman met with the Engineering Department to make a rain garden to help divert and capture the running water that flows through the site. The Recreation Department will be planting shrubs around the pavilion to make it more appealing for future rentals. b) Comfort Station – Ms. Fochtman will meet with the Miracle League Board to discuss timeframe and cost of the project. Recreation Commissioners are interested in coming up with a different name for this building. c) Morrison Farm – The Morrison Farm Committee is looking into redesigning the parking lot at Ice House Pond. d) TJ O'Grady – A representative from the Boxborough Commission, Ms. Mitzi Weil, has been interested in getting Boxborough more involved with the skate park. She is talking with Town officials about trying to contribute \$40,000 toward the second phase of the skate park project through CPC. e) Playgrounds - Ms. Fochtman signed a contract with Forte Landscaping for the installation of the Elm Street Playground. She will be meeting with them later today to talk about the schedule of installation. Gardner Playground has new parking spaces that have been repaved. f) Community Preservation Committee – CPC meets tomorrow night with Natural Resources and the Woman's Club.
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NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION:

Mr. Steve Leo had asked Ms. Fochtman if we could incorporate some natural elements to Goward Playground. There are some gift funds left that may help however the Recreation Department is looking to hold off on that in case we need it for the Goward/Gardner Basketball renovation project. Ms. Fochtman is planning on asking the Highway Department about bringing boulders over to Goward. She can also ask Mr. Dean Charter about adding logs.

MEETING ADJOURNED TIME:	Meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM
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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>*