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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
November 18, 2015 6:30pm
Town Hall Conference Room

Attendees: Dennis Visconti, Chairman, Stephen McDonough, Aldo Ursino, Bill Previdi, Joanne St. Pierre, James Sarno, Julie Boussy, Jack Bracciotti, Steve Sylvester, Maura Campbell arrived at 6:45pm

Absent members: Therese DiBlasi

2015 DEC 10 AM 11:11
TOWN OFFICE
REGISTRARS

1. RE: Ice Skating Arena – It appears that there are water leaks from the Arenas roof, and the roof will need repairing. Speakers have been ordered since the Arenas speakers are 20 years old and not in good shape at all.

2.

Mass Inter-scholastic Association (M.I.A.A) may be committed for this season for ice time. Issues regarding fire and police details at Arena are still being looked into; maybe 3 firemen may do the detail. There was one new hire & another one being advertised for the Arena offering 15 dollars an hour.

3. RE: Golf Courses – A few OS&R members asked what would happen if there are no successful bids? B. Previdi informed us as of the moment two bids have been put in, 1st bid offers experience, but don't quite meet our expectations, 2nd bid doesn't meet 15% minimum requirement. Bids are due Dec 18th as advertised through central registry.

4. Bids are reviewed for the best candidate. The Committee as a whole agrees that it's vital that rounds must be kept tracked of. It is the biggest concern, and the committee all agree that any technology possible is needed to keep track of rounds.

5. Our town planner has summited an application for our town to become a Compact Community (CC), here is an excerpt from Mass.gov regarding what (CC) is e.g., " Creates a Community Compact Cabinet that will work toward mutual accountability, work to reduce red tape, promote best practices, and develop specific "community compacts" with local governments." It may help Open Space & Recreation (OS&R) with a OS&R plan which is needed last update was in 1999. May address other

concerns our committee has regarding Financial Management and Competitiveness.

6. M. Campbell stated our parks can be utilized much more and can be much more appealing if a seasonal care plan was in place, and in turn can get a higher fee for park permits. S. McDonough agrees, he also mentioned he looked into the time frame of park utilization and found large gaps between use in which the parks were not being utilized.

7. RE: Dog Park: M. Campbell looked into Melrose's Dog Park creation and found the people of Melrose originally started a fund for it. The fund then was used to fence in the area, place dog water bubblers in, posts with poop bags, and a wonderful dog activity playground/track. E.g., a large tube for dogs to go through, and other fun obstacles dogs love. Melrose DPW supplies the wood chips for the park and keeps park in great shape. Societies of Stoneham can be the way to get a true push for the Stoneham Dog Park. M. Campbell's next task will be to check on codes with Animal Control, and D.P.H. if there are any for the Dog Park.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM

Submitted by: Aldo Ursino