

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
November 12, 2014 6:30 pm
Town Hall Banquet Room

Attendees: Dennis Visconti, Stephen Mc Donough, Steve Sylvester, Aldo Orsino, Jim Sarno, John Bracciotti, Joanne St. Pierre.

Absent members: Bill Previdi, Therese DiBlasi, Julie Boussy, Maura Campbell

1. Call to Order 6:47pm with a motion to accept minutes from the last meeting. It passed unanimously.
2. Mr. Lou Chulli was to attend with a rink update, but sent his apologies. The following information was passed along: Roofing issues are finished, locker rooms, rubber mats, and shower renovations are to be done. Dennis said there should be a decent savings in the water bill with all the repairs. Money has been appropriated for the Zamboni battery and the old mats will have a resale value.

The Sherriff's department did a great job cleaning and will come back in the spring.

3. Anthony Wilson, Chairman of the Greenway/Bike Path Committee, attended the meeting and announced a meeting on Monday, November 24, 2014 on the bike path trail that would be open to the public. The trail is 6.7 miles long, starting at Rec Park to Winchester to Horn Pond following the old railroad.
4. Steve McDonough asked Mr. Wilson who in the Town authorized the repurpose of Rec Park. He answered the Town Meeting vote in 2010.

Steve went on to ask about the safety zone; a 15ft buffer zone from the football field. He explained the bike path is going to be too close to the field and this could become a liability to the Town. He suggested removing 4 trees that are in the immediate area and this would allow for the proper foot gap for the safety zone.

5. The committee discussed making a bikeway recommendation to the Board of Selectmen.
6. Continued discussion on the bikeway introduced the entry way onto Gerry Court to Rec Park. Questions were brought up on parking availability that Mr. Wilson would check on, and how does the neighborhood feel-were they approached and asked their feelings? Also, the entry way will create issues; 5 lost parking spaces and supply a great place for kids to congregate. Mr. Wilson said that a nice entrance to the bikeway would be wanted for the Town that shows the start of the trail. Mr. Wilson also spoke of the FY 15 MassDOT funding, as well as options that were coming from the engineering firm on the design. A public hearing will be held in December and then be part of Town Meeting in January 2015.
7. Dennis suggested a Bikeway subcommittee be formed. Board members agreed with the suggestion.
8. Those who volunteered for the Bikeway subcommittee were of Steve McDonough, Steve Sylvester, and Aldo Orsino. Those who volunteered for the Unicorn subcommittee were Joanne St. Pierre, Bill Previdi, Steve McDonough, and Aldo Orsino.

9. The Bikeway discussion continued with questions on the path whether it would be paved or stone dust, who would be responsible for upkeep and who will be paying for this, parking and traffic issues, will it be a multiple use path with walking and riding, and the plans will need to be seen because of the crossings at Montvale and Main Streets.
10. Unicorn Golf was a topic as well this evening. David Ragucci wants a marketing plan but the committee didn't feel Carl is interested and it wouldn't be well received. We all want better management on Unicorn and we should start focusing on the RFP rewrite. Questions on if Carl owns the carts and how much revenue comes in from the carts, does he use Town gas and reimburse, and how much revenue from the vending machines and pro shop.
11. Motion was made to have a letter drawn up for Dennis to give to David requesting 3 years of financial reports including number of rounds, all revenues, and any other specifics from the contract that would assist in an updated RFP and also have Carl comply to what is in the contract by way of reporting.
12. The planner position interviews were done and a candidate needed to be selected.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Submitted by Joanne St. Pierre