

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACE AND
RECREATION COMMITTEE
Emergency Meeting January 11, 2017 6:30 pm
Town Hall Conference Room**

Attendees: Dennis Visconti, Chairman, Stephen McDonough, Aldo Ursino, James Sarno, Maura Campbell, Cynthia Hemenway, Therese DiBlasi & Jack Bracciotti

Absent Members: , David Goodberg, Steve Sylvester

Guests: : Raymie Parker, Louis Chiulli

***Maura Campbell asked for a Motion be held:** That the OSR Committee approach T. A. Younger to designate a location behind Senior center for the Dog Park and ask for a account for it at the next town meeting.

1. RE: Ice Skating Arena –A Solution to the Arena’s badly needed repairs such as a needed ice floor system; raising the ice time rates is a must; in which it could repay 1.5 bond issued for 30 years has been on hold and may not be needed until a clear precise engineering estimate of the Arena is done CJL engineering was chosen to do estimate of Arena repairs and blue prints will be passed in on Feb 7. Louis Chiulli hopes repairs start April 2018. Louis stated Many games are lined up, and is waiting for a call from the MIAA tournament looks promising. Dunbar owes for ice time this past summer. T.A. suggests 50% down and 50% before taking the ice. A new financial method may be but in place on how to collect money for ice times. E..g maybe automatic paying online for ice time. Which may make it easier for correct percentage to go into special capital fund for the Arena repairs, although for now Louis is doing the best he can to collect fee’s. Louis shared many ideas to improve ice arena services prior.

2. RE: Play Grounds/ Field Permits & Recreation- Steve Angelo Rec. Dir. would like to have pick-up games on ice, he will try to work with Arena Manager Lou. Steve is also planning to meet with Softball organization. Dave Goodberg and Steve Angelo have worked together to incorporate all of Stoneham’s fields and open space recreation activities on one site link to collaborate it with Stoneham Town Hall’s site.

<http://www.stonehamrec.com/parksandrecdirectory> David Goodberg added new map ; a very nice descriptive map numbering trails, parks and schools. He can also consolidate it on the Stoneham.gov site if allowed and updates on the Dog Park.

3. RE: Golf Courses – Sterling is in a surplus and brought in 217,246.77 in revenue for Stoneham. Also Food sales are excellent. The extra revenues may help with completing a new irrigation system maybe in the spring of 2017.

4. RE: Community Compact- The town finished the project of Stoneham's open Space Inventory. And now the final step is the completion of the final analysis of the inventory to be submitted to Division of Local Services of an OSR report and results must be passed in by June 2017 in which will award us MAPC (town wide open space) grants.

5. RE: Dog Park- The Dog Park can be funded by Grants but we must apply for them with the help from the T.A after location is settled with senior Ctr and Youth Soccer, also needed is the approval for water use and DPH help. Raymie Parker was very helpful in explaining how the grants work and explaining how non-profits work like (Stanton Foundation); although having a 501 is a separate entity issue. Having a revolving account and/or surcharge with dog license can help, there may be 3000 dogs in Stoneham.

A Dog Park Society they provide some funding, this can be done by providing events and in turn would support in which sustains its Dog Park. They also can provide ideas, the Stanton Foundation suggested to Stoneham if a Dog Park was to come to Stoneham the park should have pea stone for top soil. It's easy to maintain.