

1-3-2017 Rec Commission minutes

Town Hall, Central Meeting Room South, Second Floor

Present: Vicki Donlan, Adrienne Ramsey, Bruce Thompson, Sarah Melia, Mark Thorell

Absent: Budd Thorne

Attending: Jim Sharkansky, Julie Strehle, advisory committee liasons

Joshua Ross, 125 Wompatuck Rd

Julie Coyle, Accord Lane, Weir River estuary committee

Minutes for November 1, 2016 reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Adrienne Ramsey, Second by Bruce Thompson, unanimously approved.

December 6, 2016 minutes reviewed: Motion to approve minutes by Adrienne Ramsey, second by Bruce Thompson, unanimously approved.

Rec Barn update: need one last signature from the building department, meeting tomorrow. Entrance may need to be re-poured due to steep grade.

SSCC feasibility study is currently still being vetted by CPC.

Budget FY 2016 review for advisory committee members: review of rec barn, rec camp pre-paid expenses, dance costume upcoming expenses.

Spring/summer programs:

Hoping for a February 1 live on-line registration date for preschool/playground camp; hoping to get pool memberships live February 1 as well.

Discussion of pool/camp options, outreach to former lifeguards, staffing of pool. Julie Strehle wondered if swim team would still run: swim team is still anticipated. New administrator Stephanie Higgins started today in the Rec office.

Hingham Youth Tennis and Toddler Soccer are offered this spring. New Girls Field Hockey program will return and will be larger. Possibly looking at the sport of Fencing. Hoping to have registration live late February, early March for spring programs.

Next Thursday – article coming in Hingham Journal regarding upcoming programs and the pool.

Discussion of fields management: we already partner with Jay Mcgrail so his managing of more fields in town is not new for us and we support generally the streamlining of fields throughout town. DPW still cuts grass, cleans up, weed management – SSCC does the turf maintenance, seeding, etc.

January free trial program for Fitness center is in place again through the end of January.

Kress PARC grant: the funds are still delayed; any piece of land in the whole town that required a conservation restriction needs to have those restrictions put in place – conservation commission is working to go back and put all in place now, but these are projects going back many years. Also signage needs to go at each and every property.

Pool marketing is set to begin in March.

Discussion moved to whether the Rec Commission will vote to support the Planning Board feasibility study for a connecting trail at the Shipyard to Crow Point (the Bouve property access).

Joshua Ross: 125 Wompatuck Road – President of the Wompatuck Improvement Association:

Joshua spoke in favor of clear and safe access on the Shipyard side of the property through to Crow Point as was originally promised to the neighbors when the Shipyard was constructed.

Vicki Donlan spoke to clarify: the proposal is not for trail maintenance, just for a feasibility study to review access and ADA compliance.

Patty Coyle, 3 Accord Lane, Hingham Chair of Weir River estuary park committee. Patty spoke in favor of natural resources and preserving access, and has been hoping for this access study.

Discussion of access difficulties now, cost of the proposed access mechanism – minimum \$500,000, ADA compliance, state requirements, whether other more reasonable alternatives were explored. We have not been provided with any information about other more reasonably priced alternatives and whether effort was made to explore those options. The proposal before us is to study an access bridge over the harbor, and no potential alternatives are part of the study as the proposal is written.

Vote is whether or not to support CPC funding for a Bouve access bridge feasibility study: Bruce Thompson voted yes, Adrienne Ramsey voted yes, Sarah Melia voted no, Vicki Donlan voted no. Vote was 2 to 2.

Motion to adjourn: Bruce Thompson, Second by Adrienne Ramsey, unanimously approved.

We adjourned at 7:56, next meeting February 7, 2017