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Recreation Commission Minutes 05/19/2010

Park and Recreation Commission

Minutes

Tuesday, May 19, 2010

Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission came to order at 6:15 PM on the first floor of the Arlington Senior Center on Wednesday, May 19, 2010.

Members in attendance included: Leslie Mayer, Jen Rothenberg, Don Vitters, and Jim Robillard. Also in attendance was Director of Recreation Joseph Connelly.

Members of the public included: Betsy Leonard Wright, Susan Bernhard, Adam Glick, Mustafa Voraglu, Julie Hall, Andrew Fischer.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Robillard motioned to approve the April 13, 2010 minutes, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg, and approved 3-0.

Open Forum – Public Comments

No comments in open forum.

Special Event Approvals

Betsy Leonard introduced the event details for the Friends of Spy Pond Educational Workshop. The Commission discussed the request and event details. Ms. Rothenberg motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Robillard and approved 3-0.

Town Meeting Update

Capital and CDBG Requests

Mr. Connelly stated that the Commission did receive the funding to complete the Wellington Tennis Court project and did also receive feasibility study funds. Mr. Connelly stated that the Recreation Department received their scholarship and jobs program funding from CDBG and also \$3,000 to assist with handicap accessible restrooms.

Light and Amplification Warrant Articles

Ms. Mayer and Mr. Connelly explained that no substitute warrant articles were introduced and the no action taken by the BOS was approved unanimously on all related articles.

Mr. Connelly reviewed the positive compliance to date by the user groups with regards to the new light policy. Mr. Connelly stated that youth baseball has been excellent is sending daily updates. Mr. Connelly also stated that Ms. Marianne Comeau was hired as the light monitor.

Warrant Article 36

Mr. Connelly and Ms. Mayer reviewed the vote of Town meeting to approve article 36. Ms. Mayer stated that although the bylaw was approved it would not become law until approved by the Attorney General. Ms. Mayer indicated that this could be sometime this fall. Ms. Mayer asked Mr. Connelly to review this with Town Counsel.

Ms. Mayer reviewed the process with those in attendance. Ms. Mayer stated that the Commission would be reviewing the draft proposal of policies and procedures and would be giving input to Mr. Connelly at their June meeting. Mr. Connelly stated a public hearing would then be held in the fall for additional input. Ms. Rothenberg asked if a public hearing could be held in June so that information could get out to the public earlier and then upon Attorney General approval could be implemented swiftly.

The Commission agreed and asked Mr. Connelly to set up a June public input session.

Ms. Julie Hall shared her concerns as an abutter and on behalf of the Brackett School PTA. The Commission and members in attendance discussed some of those concerns. Mr. Glick commented that he felt there issues would be minimal. The Commission and Ms. Hall discussed the issue of physical education classes that take place after 8:15 am.

Ms. Bernhard addressed the concerns regarding the safe walking routes to the Brackett School. Mr. Fisher thought a compromise in time could work for instance 7:15 am could be 7:30 am. Mr. Glick discussed promoting Canine Good Certification courses in town through the Recreation Department.

The Commission discussed a compromise in time to potentially 6 AM -7:30 or 7:15 am. Mr. Connelly read two letters into the official minutes with regards to Robbins Farm.

Ms. Mayer thanked everyone for coming and reminded them to share their concerns in writing with Mr. Connelly or at the next public input session.

Arlington Sport Center Renovation Project

Mr. Connelly stated that the rink project was on schedule and so far within budget. Mr. Connelly stated that the cement floor was scheduled to be poured on June 21st, which was a week ahead of schedule.

Capital Improvement Update

Thorndike Parking - Mr. Connelly stated that he did meet with Warner Larson and Sacca on site for a preliminary meeting. Mr. Connelly stated that Sacca was flagging the area for Conservation to review and that the project was still scheduled to begin the third week in June.

Summer Street Playground – Mr. Connelly stated that the bid was awarded to Sacca and that a preliminary construction meeting was being set up. Mr. Connelly did state that the equipment had been ordered through the State bid list.

North Union Basketball Court – Mr. Connelly explained that he did review a sketch of the site that did show the exchange of lands with school and recreation and it appeared that the facilities would fit. Mr. Connelly explained the basketball court, playground and spray pool would stay in the same location and the baseball fields would switch to where the school is. The Commission discussed the issue is not would it fit but how it would fit and be perceived by the abutters. Mr. Robillard stated that the 90' diamond would be moved to a more residential area.

Recreation and Rink Update

Mr. Connelly stated that summer registration was on going and that both res tag sales and summer program registration needed to pick up in or for the enterprise fund to meet the necessary revenues.

Special Event Approvals

Jeffrey Alexander –Robbins Farm- Star Gazing – 5/22, 6/9, 7/17, 8/12, 8/28, 9/25
Motion to approve by Ms. Rothenberg, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

Friends of Waldo – Waldo Park - Picnic – 6/12 and 6/19

Motion to approve by Ms. Rothenberg, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

Judi Paradis – Reservoir – 6/1

Motion to approve by Ms. Rothenberg, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

Great Expectations – Summer Street Field – 6/11

Motion to approve by Ms. Rothenberg, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

Brackett Elementary – Menotomy Rocks Park – 6/18

Motion to approve by Ms. Rothenberg, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

AYSBA Graduation Day – June 5th – Buck Field Amplification

Mr. Connelly explained that a formal request would be coming in for this event. The Commission discussed the event and amplification issues. Ms. Rothenberg motioned to allow Mr. Connelly to approve the request as he determined appropriate, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0/

Committee Updates

Mr. Connelly and Ms. Mayer updated the Commission on the Dog Park Task Force.

Other

Ms. Robillard motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation