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## **Parks and Recreation Minutes 10/09/2001**

Tuesday, October 9, 2001 at 7:30 pm  
Meeting Minutes - Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission met on Tuesday, October 9, 2001 at 7:30 pm in the Whittemore Robbins House.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Carabello, Bernice Jones, Mark McCabe, Leslie Mayer and Donald Vitters. Also present: Deborah Hayes and Mark Shea.

### *Robbins Farm and Spy Pond Shores RFP*

Mr. Vitters indicated that he had distributed copies of the separate RFP for Spy Pond Shores and Robbins farm.

Two firms, Carol Johnson and Copley Wolf, have been invited to present proposals for both projects. Leonard Design Associates has been invited to submit a proposal for Robbins Farm. Pat Loheed has been invited to submit for Spy Pond Shores. Proposals are due October 24, 2001. The Commission will meet on October 25 to review the submittals. Members of the Spy Pond and Robbins Farm Friends groups will be advised.

### *Memorial Gift Brenda Tocci*

Ms. Hayes informed the Commission that a former employee, Brenda Tocci, had recently passed away. The Recreation Division has received memorial donations totaling \$1275.

Ms. Hayes suggested that the Commission speak with Brenda's parent to solicit ideas of how best to use this money. Mr. Carabello will follow up on this.

### *Capital Update*

Mr. Vitters reported that work on Thorndike Field was underway. Andrew Leonard has informed Mr. Vitters that a change order is needed to tie water into the site. Site plans had indicated that water was on site but the contractor must tie into a hydrant near the parking lot. The cost estimate for this additional work is approximately \$10,000.

The Commission agreed to continue as recommended.

The Commission briefly discussed correspondence sent to ROADS asking for compensation for use of park property at Thorndike for storage of equipment needed to rebuild the RT. 2 bridge. Mr. Shea reported that a letter has been sent but no reply has been received. Mr. Shea will follow up on this.

Work at Parallel is near completion. It still remains to be determined if the galvanized steel swing sets should be painted. This will be decided at a later date.

Mr. Vitters reported that he had a discussion with the Permanent Town Building Committee. The committee has asked the architects working on the Peirce School Playground to present their plans to the Park and Recreation Commission. This will be scheduled for the next meeting on October 25.

### *Update on Sports Center Heating System*

Arthur Ales liaison to the Commission from the Sports Center Improvement Committee gave an update on plans for heating the facility. He indicated that the committee was still trying to determine what the extent of heating for the facility should be. He indicated that there could be additional energy charges as refrigeration equipment might be

used more frequently to offset the heating. The committee had some questions as to how this may affect all users of the facility.

Mr. Carabello asked whether the dehumidifier could be adapted in such a way as to accommodate the heating system. Mr. Ales will check on that.

Mr. Ales noted that there had been some discussion among his group about the possibility of expanding the facility. He suggested that some of the funds received from the Commonwealth might be used to hire an architect to look at the feasibility of expansion.

He also noted that the expansion might factor into plans for a heating system.

Mr. McCabe will attend the next meeting of the Sports Center Improvement Committee as a representative of the Park Commission.

Mr. Carabello expressed concern that the Improvement Committee did not have a clear understanding of their role as a sub committee to the Commission. He asked Mr. McCabe to inform the Improvement Committee that their role was advisory and that final decisions rest with the Commission.

#### *Recreation Report*

Ms. Hayes presented a draft of a mid fall brochure that will be distributed through the schools in mid October. The flyer highlights winter basketball and the Nashoba Ski program.

#### *Cutter Playground additional improvements*

Mr. Shea reported that a fence had been repaired at the Reinhart Playground at Cutter School. He has also been in contact with the community group who would like to raise additional funds for landscaping. He indicated that this could be incorporated into the plans to redesign the entrance on School Street.

#### *Other*

Mr. Carabello reported that over fifty resumes were received for the Superintendent position. He, Patsy Kraemer and Caryn Cove had interviewed seven candidates and had recommended that four candidates for consideration by the Town Manager.

Mrs. Mayer asked if the Commission had been in communication with the Transportation Advisory group. She offered to draft a letter outlining the Commission's concerns with transportation at park and play areas.

#### *Minutes*

The Minutes of the meeting of June 15, 2001 and September 18, 2001 were reviewed as accepted.

The meeting adjourned.