



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

# **Town of Southwick**

## **Park and Recreation Commission**

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### **Park and Recreation Meeting Minutes**

June 14, 2023

6:30 pm

Hybrid Meeting

Attendance: Jeanne Reed-Waldron, John Whalley remotely, David DeiDolori, Rick Harriman, Cindy Sullivan

Absent: Michael Sheil and Cara Cartello

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Jeanne Reed-Waldron at 6:30 pm. The next meeting of the Park and Recreation will be July 12, 2023.

### **Public Comment**

Joseph Deedy, Southwick Civic Fund President. 258 Feeding Hills Road Southwick, MA 01077  
Mr. Deedy wanted to update the commission on using Whalley Park for the Fireworks on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The Southwick Civic Fund raises funds through community donations and organizes the firework display. The board thanked Mr. Deedy for this great event. Motion was made by David D. and seconded by Rick Harriman motion passed unanimously.

### **Review Minutes and Bills**

No minutes or bills where available for approval.

### **Whalley Park:**

John Whalley updated the commission that he measured the lower fields for pickleball courts. He reported 4 pickleball courts would fit nicely in that location. Cindy Sullivan will move forward with submitting the CPC application to include 4 courts at Whalley Park and 2 courts on town hall property for Senior Center use during the day and for the public when not in use during scheduled programming.

### **Rebecca Perron. Playscape Sun Shade:**

Ms. Perron asked the commission to consider purchasing a sun shade canopy for the playscape. There is currently no shade in the area which causes no area for parents or children to get relief from the sun. After a brief discussion the commission will research the cost for the canopy including installation and bring to a later meeting.

### **Buildings and Grounds Update**

David Sutton, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, was not present at the meeting nor was there an update provided. The board asked about the process and procedure document approved at the last

meeting. Commissioner Rick Harriman received a complaint about the softball field not being mowed. He wanted to make sure that David Sutton was aware of the issue. Discussed mowing schedule and wanted to verify that David Sutton had softball schedule accessible to him.

### **Sponsorship of Daily Grind Car Show:**

Commissioner Reed-Waldron presented an opportunity to sponsor a local car show being hosted by the Daily Grind. Discussion included supporting a local business event. The commission needed to be able to identify a clear benefit to the Park and Recreation before agreeing to sponsor this event. Although a worthy gesture the commission could not identify a clear benefit specifically to the Park and Recreation Department. Public funds needs to be spent under particular guidelines.

Mr. John Whalley motioned to not support the request to sponsor the Car Show event being held at the Daily Grind and David D seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Rick H.- abstain

Jeannie Reed-Waldron-abstain

John W. -yes

David D.- yes

### **Rail Trail**

David D. reported that the stop sign have been installed from where they were stolen from. He is also moving forward with speaking with Town Planner regarding the access road near the Rail Ale House.

Discussion took place regarding hiring Tynic Landscaping to complete the arm mowing on the rail trail. DPW has been unable to complete this task for the past several years. Ms. Jeannie Reed-Waldron made a motion to allow payment to a vendor to complete the arm mowing needed on the rail trail not to exceed \$1800.00 second by Rick Harriman. All were in favor by roll call vote.

### **Town Beach:**

The town beach is opening June 16<sup>th</sup> for the season. The beach has a full staff excited to work and have a safe and fun summer. Discussion took place regarding offering a season pass for families. Commissioners decided to research the idea more and discuss it at the July meeting.

Old Town Beach is still being used by resident to dump their leaves. Question regarding if the town attorney can get involved because we have sent letter and the resident is not complying. Will confer with Karl Stinehart regarding next steps.

Right of First Refusal for the Terri L. Brown trustee of the Walter E. Johnson Irrevocable Trust, Fred Jackson Road: After a brief discussion Mr. John Whalley made a motion that the Park and Recreation Commission has no interest in the above listed property and David D seconded. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.

### **New Business**

Discussed Motocross on July 8<sup>th</sup> at Whalley Park. Board members will be present to volunteer. Rick Harriman indicated his son is going to volunteer with him and John Whalley indicated he will have several family members volunteering as well. There are several students who may volunteer as well. Will post on social media for a final push for volunteers.

### **Meeting called to a close**

7:47 pm Jeannie Reed-Waldron motioned to adjourn the meeting; David DeiDolori seconded the motion. The meeting was called to a close.

Jeanne Reed-Waldron\_\_\_\_\_

John Whalley\_\_\_\_\_

David DeiDolori\_\_\_\_\_

Mike Sheil\_\_\_\_\_

Rick Harriman\_\_\_\_\_