



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Southwick

Park and Recreation Commission

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Park and Recreation Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2023

6:30 pm

Hybrid Meeting

Attendance: Jeanne Reed-Waldron, John Whalley, David DeiDolori, Rick Harriman, Cindy Sullivan and Cara Cartello

Absent: Mike Sheil

Guests: Mike Westcott

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Jeanne Reed-Waldron at 6:30 pm. The next meeting of the Park and Recreation will be June 7, 2023.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Review Minutes and Bills

Minutes & bills were approved.

Mike Westcott, Dog Park

Mike was at a vendor show and Stanton grant was there and asked if Southwick would be interested in a dog park. They give out 10 grants a year. 100% grant funding for design plan and site plan and 90% for the actual building. The town or donors would be responsible for the remaining 10%. Mike would be willing to apply for the grant. He doesn't have a specific location in mind. Size could be dependent on location and space available. 2024 will be the last day the grant is offered. There isn't a deadline. The grant application opens Jan 1 and is open until all 10 grants are taken.

Buildings & Grounds Update

There was no update.

Whalley Park

Jeanne would like speedy dry purchased for all the fields. The board agreed this is necessary to maintain the fields and keep them playable. Jeanne Reed-Waldron motioned to purchase four bags of speedy dry from the revolving account for the softball field; Rick Harriman seconded and the motion was approved.

There have been calls to the office about the foul smell and the excessive bugs from the grass clipping being dumped by the softball field. Jeanne motioned to have maintenance dump the grass clippings in a more discreet area, preferably behind the shed; John Whalley seconded and the motion was approved.

The board authorizes Nadine to hire Whalley Park staff.

There is a Motocross meeting scheduled at the Police Station is May 12th at 1pm. John will attend.

Review and discuss Park & Recreation maintenance policy. John Whalley motioned to accept proposed P&R Maintenance Policy; Rick Harriman seconded and the motion was approved.

CPC Application for Pickle ball courts at Prifti and Whalley Park

The Council on Aging started pickle ball. Classes of 16 people for four weeks. It will be held behind the town hall on the basketball court. Randy White is the instructor. The COA authorized Cindy to move forward with the CPC request for Pickle ball. CPC requires multiple quotes for the application. Possible location is Whalley Park lower back field. David thinks we should pursue. Review Quote.

Rail Trail

Andy Reardon met with Jon Goddard to discuss the rail trail grant. The Boy Scout mile marker project is complete. The bike pump stations have been installed. The leaning trees along the trail have been removed. Stop signs on the trail are missing. Replacement signs will need to be purchased.

Beach

Review beach staff. John Whalley motioned to approve the proposed staff for the beach; Rick Harriman seconded and the motion was approved.

Old Town Beach

No new business.

Various Programs

No new updates.

Old Business

Chapter 61 Procedure for handling right of refusal. David feels timeline is aggressive since P&R meets once a month. David and Rick recommend 45 days. John believes it's mandated by state and may not be able to change timeframe.

New Business

The Town Meeting is May 16 at the high school. John and Rick will be there.

Meeting called to a close

7:47 pm David DeiDolori motioned to adjourn the meeting; John Whalley seconded the motion. The meeting was called to a close.

Jeanne Reed-Waldron_____

John Whalley _____

David DeiDolori _____

Mike Sheil _____

Rick Harriman _____