

Nov 29 2023 Rec Com Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 7:30pm

WELCOME

QUORUM

Lisa Donahue
Kimberly Putney
Tom Stevens
Jeff Hixon
BCATV
John Rowen

VOTING ITEMS

Approve meeting minutes from October 2023-

Motion by Jeff Hixon

Seconded by Tom Stevens

passed unanimously

Kimberly will forward meeting minutes to Robin

Kimberly also needs to put past meeting minutes into a google drive

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND SCHEDULED DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Winter Pickleball-

Resident emailed asking for an indoor venue for pickleball, resident proposed locations.

Jeff offered that Danvers Indoor Sports has pickleball

Danvers Y also hosts pickleball

Tom Stevens confirmed that the local elementary schools are fully booked with basketball- no evenings available for pickleball

Concern for windows and fragile equipment in other local venues

Johnson Field Playground Updates-

CPC application for funding submitted

Rick Farner from BOH met with Weston and Samson regarding test dig pits

Proposal should be in soon- Lisa will follow up

Permit from Department of Environmental Protection could take longer- approx 6 weeks

Kimberly to place Rec Com on CPC agenda for next meeting

Park Program Update

Lisa met with Matt Coogan

Still trying to figure out what Rec Com role is with regards to Park Program

Matt and Leanne will attend an upcoming Rec Com meeting to discuss further

Park Program use of ball fields, Rec Com promotion of Park Program

Winter Newsletter Items

First day of Winter is Dec 21st

Recreational opportunities in Boxford- snowshoeing, cross country skiing, skating, ice fishing

Public Safety- police and fire chiefs' concern for unsafe/unstable ice conditions

Include paragraph in newsletter about ice safety

Call to dispatch for information re:safety

Public Ice Rink in Topsfield

Potential for a safe ice option in Boxford in the future- either rehabbing a previous location or creating a new one.

Previous location is in disrepair. John was able to find historical record of a request for a skating area in 2018 that was denied by Cons Com.

LIAISON UPDATES

CPC

Reviewed all of the 2024 funding applications

Discussed the need for Dorman land plot restrictions

Rec Com not opposed to holding the restriction, will wait to be approached by CPC and receive further information before deciding our level of involvement

BTA/BOLT

Dorman Land Plot conservation restriction

No trespassing signs removed now that it is town property

Chain Breakers Mountain Bike Group are offering to rehab a trail in honor of a former member.

In addition to trail rehab a bridge and plaque are proposed. BTA/BOLT working with Cons Com.

Planning to host a wildlife speaker this winter- mid January

BTA holds 20+ conservation restrictions, annual review of each property includes a site visit to view for violations, enforcement of restrictions as written in original documentation, write an annual report which gets submitted to land owner (town or private)

Camp Sacajawea

No updates

Tennis/Pickleball courts

Open during winter but snow will not be removed

BAA/Athletic Fields

Fall town sports season concluded; Basketball is only winter sport through BAA

Upcoming improvements focused on Kostner Field at Stiles Pond

Potentially rehabilitate Morse Field in the next few years after Kostner Field- needs fence, dugouts, score board, maybe a press box

Town playgrounds

Boy Scout Park cleanup- interested resident(s)

Will likely occur in the Spring
Possible partnership with Boxford Garden Club

Unanticipated items arising after the posting deadline at the discretion of the Chair
None

For next meeting-

Review Bylaws

Last review in the 1980s

Proposed changes will need to be presented to the Select Board and at Town meeting

Next meeting January 17th 2024 7:30pm

Motion to adjourn by Tom Stevens

Seconded by Jeff Hixon

Adjourned at 8:21 pm