

RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2021

7:00pm

Zoom Meeting

Present: Hema Santhanakrishnan, Commissioner; Joe Will, Commissioner; Steve Trimble, Commissioner; Chris Hardy, Commissioner; Nancy Corcoran, Commissioner; Melissa Rier, Recreation Director; Lindsey King, Recreation Assistant; Paul Malchodi, FBFRT Liaison.

Absent: David Martin, Board of Selectman Liaison

Opening: Joe Will opened the meeting at 7:03pm.

I. Regular Business

1. Review of Meeting Minutes from March 2nd, 2021:

Joe moved, Chris Second, Nancy – Abstain, everyone else – Yes, 4 yes, 1 abstain.

The motion was approved, 4-0-1.

2. Citizen Concerns:

Melissa reviewed the fiscal year 2022 Budget with Recreation Commission. Melissa explained that the Hebert Gardens are leased, which are noted on the budget.

3. Reports:

- a) Fields and Facilities: Melissa had emailed the sports leagues for requests of field rentals and the current COVID-19 guidelines. NARA Facility rental requests are gaining momentum for the spring and summer. Camp Acton has been accepting year-round rentals.
- b) Rail Trails: Paul Malchodi from the Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail was present to talk about the trail safety. Corey York, the DPW Director, and Paul will be working together to find a new way to route bike traffic through NARA Park and create safer intersections at the five street crossings along the BFRT in Acton, particularly at the three Main Street crossings on Brook Street, Concord Road, and Wetherbee Road. \$20,000 in funding is set aside for the addition of automated activation equipment and associated signage at the intersections. Another \$12,000 is for a study of potential improvements to the safety at the five crossings.
- c) Events: Nothing new to report.
- d) Community Preservation Committee (“CPC”):
 - CPA Project Updates: The overall update of funding for each project was discussed thoroughly by Steve. There was discussion of the order

of priorities, with the commission agreeing that finishing the NARA Sports Pavilion is the highest priority.

II. New/Special Business:

4. New Position – Recreation Assistant, Lindsey King, was introduced to the Recreation Commission. She will be helping the Recreation Department with fields and facility rentals, programs, camp, and other duties as needed. She is a seasonal employee funded through the Recreation Revolving Fund until the end of August 2021.
5. Recreation classes have been reduced for the spring and summer by focusing on successful past programs. The Recreation Department decided to not put together a program booklet and just place all the programs online directly. The department will be making a postcard to mail to Acton residents to help market the online registration process.

6. Consent Items:

None.

Adjournment: At 8:38 pm Joe moved, and Nancy seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Will, yes; Santhanakrishnan, yes; Trimble, yes; Hardy, yes; Corcoran, yes. The motion was approved, 5-0.