

RECREATION COMMISSION Minutes

October 4, 2022

7:00 PM

Remote Zoom Meeting

Present: Nancy Corcoran, Commissioner; Melissa Settipani-Rufo, Recreation Director, Stephen Trimble, Commissioner; Joe Will, Commissioner; David Martin, Select Board Liaison.

Residents: Hema Santhanakrishnan

Absent: None

I. Regular Business

1. Review of meeting minutes from August.

With no adjustments suggested, Joe finalized the minutes.

2. Resident's Concerns

- a) Melissa noted a request for an additional cricket field for youth. The group discussed with the conclusion that there was no available space. Melissa noted some negative behavior on the three existing School Street fields (trash, using space when not reserved, rude interactions). The artificial turf installed on the fields was funded by the leagues at ~\$12,000 per cricket pitch. The field is on a long-term lease to the Town of Acton from the state.
- b) Open Space & Recreation Plan: Working group met and set a planned public forum on November 10 to elicit additional comments and confirm polling sent out earlier in the year. The forum will be virtual.

3. Reports:

○ Fields and Facilities

- a) Melissa suggested shortening the Elm Street court reservation timeslot from the current two hours to one hour. The Commission was supportive of the action.
- b) Rental bookings winding down at NARA for the season.
- c) Melissa is seeking a new vendor for field maintenance. Gatsby Grounds did not have availability.
- d) Corey York is taking over management of the BFRT and the Gardner Playground.
- e) Recreation will oversee the Senior Park and Dog Park.

○ Events

The Monster Bash is coming up on October 21 at the Recreation Center. It is the final event after a busy summer.

○ Dog Park/Senior Park

- a) The Commission approved the subcommittee for the Main Street Campus Master Plan. Melissa and Joe will join the group. Steve will arrange meetings and take notes.

- b) The Main Street Master Plan contract with Dale Design, Inc., Landscape Architecture, was signed by Town Management.
- c) References to the Master Plan are expected at the Dog Park Public Forum and Steve will speak to one slide of the presentation.

- Community Preservation Committee

- i. CPA Projects

- Jones Field
 - ✓ A mason will be completing the brick work.
 - ✓ Once done the sand volleyball courts will be installed.
 - NARA Sports Pavilion
 - ✓ Up and running and in process of full use (see below).
 - ✓ The office could use a few bookcases but otherwise is well-equipped.
 - Gardner Playground Renovation
 - ✓ Gardner was delayed due to water drainage management issues near the parking lot. Stamski and McNary is going to present the two engineering grading options to the Friends of Gardner Field and the Town for comment.
 - Elm Street Court Reconstruction
 - ✓ The draft bid document was submitted to the Town Manager for review.
 - ✓ It is expected to go out to bid over the winter. Once approved and negotiated, construction is scheduled for the Spring.
 - NARA Bridge Reconstruction
 - ✓ This should be the only 2023 CPA submission by the Recreation Department. The cost is estimated at \$300k. The engineering plans are already complete.

- II. New/Special Business

- 1. Recreation Offices

Maura and Melissa relocated to NARA Sports Plaza (a new name for the Sports Pavilion and environs) from Audubon Drive over the summer. Discussion is underway on the use of the NARA Sports Plaza offices during the winter.

- III. Consent Items

- 1. The meeting adjourned after a motion by Steve, a second by Nancy, and a 3-0 roll call vote.

Upcoming Recreation Commission Meetings

Date	Time	Location
November 1, 2022	7:00 PM	ZOOM

Additional materials can be found here <http://actonma.gov>.