



**Town of Acton  
Recreation Commission**

**R E C E I V E D**  
MAR 12 2013

**MINUTES**

DATE: OCTOBER 2, 2012

6:45 PM

ROOM 121, ACTON TOWN HALL  
TOWN CLERK, ACTON

**ATTENDEES**

Recreation Commission members present were Ms. Karen Jarsky, Chair, Ms. Betsy Mercier, Commissioner, Ms. Bridget McKeever-Matz, Commissioner, Mr. Stephen Leo, Commissioner, Mr. Joe Will, Commissioner, Ms. Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director, Ms. Cheryl Getsick, Secretary, Ms. Melissa Rier, Natural Resources

**AGENDA TOPICS**

Meeting called to order at: 6:45 PM

**Citizens Concerns:** Ms. Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director observed offenders defacing NARA Park with graffiti. The Acton Police Department arrested the offender who is required to provide 30 hours of community service as well as provide restitution for the damages incurred.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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| DISCUSSION  | September 2012 minutes                               |
| ACTION ITEM | September 2012 minutes were accepted as amended, 4-0 |

**TOPIC: Action Item Review**

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| DISCUSSION | Ms. Fochtman spoke with a local dog trainer regarding future geese removal. The geese at NARA Pond have moved on for this season.<br>CPC Grant – Input is needed from the Friends of the Playground.<br>T.J. O’Grady – Ms. Rier will follow-up obtaining equipment quotes. Bid documents from local Recreation Departments will be collected for reference. |
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**TOPIC: GOWARD PLAYGROUND**

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| DISCUSSION  | Mr. Leo reports the Friends of the Playground have lowered the attainable goal down to 50K. The Fun Run was successful. No events are in the near future. Discussion regarding "Breakfast with Santa" event. Ms. Fochtman will speak with Ms. Nancy Dinkle (Rotary Club) regarding supporting FOP with this event. Ms. Fochtman attended a walk through at Goward along with Mr. John LaRue, Big Toys Representative, Mr. Cory York, Engineering Department and Mr. Dean Charter, Municipal Properties. Trees and the septic system were the topic of discussion. A level footprint within the current design seems plausible. The removal of some pine trees will be necessary. Mr. LaRue will develop a shifted configuration towards the back corner. Safety fencing near the parking lot is requested by F.O.P. There may be a CPC application and if awarded, monies will be available after the Board of Selectmen (BOS) approval. Determining the final design and cost is imperative for the next step. Ms. Jana Cataldo met with Kompan and has inquired about possible grants. Discussion regarding sandboxes continues and how best to maintain sanitization. Pea stone may be a possible option. CPC deadline is upcoming. |
| ACTION ITEM | Ms. Fochtman is obtaining quotes to remove the equipment from the Acton Children's School playground and place it in storage. Multiple quotes are needed. A sidewalk needs to be installed and a cement pad under the shade structure needs to be installed if the equipment is installed at Elm Street.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

**TOPIC: MORRISON FARM COMMITTEE RECREATION LIAISON**

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| DISCUSSION  | The Morrison Farm Committee contacted Ms. Fochtman requesting a representative be appointed to join the Morrison Farm Commission. They are looking for input about future uses/activities at the Farm and Ice House Pond. There have been suggestions such as a possible fishing derby to be held and advertised as a Recreational event for use of the pond. Mr. Joe Will volunteered to be the liaison between the Recreation Commission and the Morrison Farm Committee. |
| ACTION ITEM | Ms. Fochtman will contact Mr. Tom Tidman regarding what is projected for the barn's future use. A motion was proposed and seconded by all Commissioners 4-0 supporting Mr. Joe Will as the liaison.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

**TOPIC: BALL FIELD ADVERTISING SIGN POLICIES**

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| DISCUSSION  | Approval is needed from the Recreation Commissioners regarding maintaining or changing the current policy regarding signage at the ball fields. The policy would be in place for ABYB and Miracle League Fields.<br>Ms. Fochtman will develop and establish a sign policy for the Joseph Lalli Field.               |
| ACTION ITEM | Ms. Fochtman will draft a memo and send to ABYB extending their agreement and providing an initial agreement with the Miracle League.<br>Motion accepted to renew the current policy with ABYB at Veterans Field, 4-0.<br>Motion accepted to establish a sign policy with the Miracle League of Massachusetts, 4-0. |

**TOPIC: FY14 BUDGET AND CAPITAL REQUESTS**

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| DISCUSSION | The following have been proposed from Natural Resources:<br>NARA improvements including NARA entrance sign, shed enclosure for the Amphitheater electrical cage, design funding for a new bathroom/snack bar field facility. |
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**REPORTS:**

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| DISCUSSION | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Elm Street Update- Nothing to report</li><li>b) Morrison Farm Update -- noted above</li><li>c) CPC – Nothing to report</li><li>d) School Street – Model Airplane flying inquiry was received.</li><li>e) Playground Update – Jones Field, removed discarded toys</li><li>f) Open Space &amp; Recreation Plan – Ms. Fochtman reported the plan is currently undergoing final revisions.</li><li>g) NARA Park Pavilion Update – Ms. Fochtman received a cost estimate of \$240K. Ms. Fochtman will look further into costs for a patio surrounding the Pavilion as well.</li><li>h) Recreation Operations Peak - Nothing to report</li><li>i) Concord Field – The renewal of the lease is upcoming</li></ul> |
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**NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION – NOTHING TO REPORT**

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| MEETING ADJOURNED TIME: | 8:45PM |
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*\*Supporting and referenced documentation relating to these minutes are available on the Docushare site;  
<https://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-1985>*