

Recreation & Parks
April 16, 2024
6pm @ Community Center

Attendance: Commissioners Matt Martin - Chair, Linda Rice Collins, Rosanna Ferrante, Shelly Bedrossian, Karin Ernst

Meeting called to order at 6:00p.

Motion to approve minutes from 03/12/24 meeting: Shelly noted one change in the Correspondence section for the Ashley Davis special permit request. Shelly clarified that she opposed due to the inconsistency of what requests to charge for and what to waive. The Commission voted unanimously to approve with the change.

Motion to approve minutes from 03/19/24 meeting: Linda had one change to wording. The Commission voted unanimously to approve with that change.

Motion to approve minutes from the 04/02/24 meeting: Linda had a few small changes – clarifying Peter Rice's name in the Stramski's section, that she also met with Charlie and Peter to run boundary lines for the dog park, and that Rec and Park has programs taking place on high school property, not Vets. The Commission voted unanimously to approve with these changes.

Topics:

- Farmer's Coop Email – response to fee requested by Rec and Park
 - The coop would like to be added to a future meeting agenda to speak with the Commission about the \$3,000 fee and adding Wednesdays as a third pick-up day.
 - Linda noted they were at Stramski's today (04/16/24) with no insurance or fee submitted yet
 - Shelly noted insurance could still be active from last year – 12-month policy
 - Insurance is non-negotiable – must be received
 - Jaime will email them tomorrow to ask for certificate of insurance and to get them on the next meeting's agenda
- PARC Grant Process – Shelly
 - Shelly has been gathering quotes and researching – Reynolds Field Green St project; waiting for one more quote
 - \$2.3 million in account right now – to redo baseball fields, etc
 - Money is worth 25% less than it was originally
 - More money will be needed, even if nothing is done with rink
 - Found PARC grant: \$400k reimbursement grant – part of completing project
 - Deadline July 19th
 - One question is if on MBTA route – could depend on how things go at Town Meeting on that topic
 - To apply for any of these grants, need to have things on record with Mass DCR including an open park plan
 - Current plan for Marblehead is from 2012, considered outdated and no longer eligible
 - Cannot apply this year as a new plan cannot be done in time, but can apply next year
 - Shelly taking course on how to approach this on May 9, 2024
 - Are all grants reimbursement grants? Not sure
 - For reimbursement grants, have to go through town meeting for approval and pay up front
 - Shelly estimates she will be ready to discuss more in about three weeks
- Dept & Commission Policy Manual Initiative Intro – Rosanna, Jaime, Peter (not present)

- Presented introduction to what they have done so far for all to look over before next meeting and provide feedback on
- Packet is working document for all Commission members to review and comment on
- Will provide links to resources used
- This is to be used as starting point - at next meeting, would like to take a few minutes to decide which part to tackle first
 - Mission statement will be final step to wrap up
- Annual Review of School MOU
 - Jaime was very happy with 2023-24 MOU, wants something about the courts added for 2024-25 MOU
 - What level of responsibility does Rec and Park have vs what the schools are responsible for in regards to courts – who does what?
 - Communication guidelines
 - Explicitly list what Rec and Park and schools will each be responsible for so there is no confusion
 - Karin wants consistency
 - Courts on school property – High school and Vets
 - Present two scenarios to school committee and let them choose?
 - Jaime will reach out to Sarah Fox and Mary Delisle to set up a meeting 2-3 weeks out; should have scenarios in place to present at that time
 - If necessary, maybe approve MOU as it is with the understanding an addendum will be added regarding the courts?
 - Commission will discuss at next meeting and decide; Jaime will schedule first meeting with school committee for after next Rec and Park meeting
 - Field closings – Shelly noted she sees people on fields that are closed for recess
 - Should recess be in MOU?
 - Will discuss next meeting
 - New MOU will be effective 09/01/24

Park Updates – Jaime

- Park employees have started cutting fields for games
- Trash 3x per week
- Painted foul lines on fields
- Cut down ornamental grass at high school
- Painted track at Hopkins along with men's soccer and youth girls' lacrosse
- Matt would like to know why turf looked yellow and not green after tarps were removed from Seaside outfield

Recreation Updates – Jaime

- Sweetheart Dance was held on 04/08/24; great attendance and everyone had a good time
- Egg Drop had low enrollment ahead of time but ended up being full; more people than expected
- April Vacation Club running this week at Gatchell's
- Large league seasons for T-ball and soccer coming up
 - Good enrollment
 - Now three age groups: 3½+, 4½+, and 5½+
- Ton of registrations for spring leagues
- Summer – getting ready for staff to return beginning of May

- Will have John DiCicco move the things in the locker room at Stramski's – currently blocking needed supplies
- Stramski's lift – will need annual inspections

Correspondence:

- Green Street Woods Bike Park – email from Pat Milner
 - Jaime suggested inviting them to a meeting as the Commission is looking at Green Street Woods as possible disc golf location
 - First meeting in June?
- Pickleball Open Play – email from Alison Ford
 - Strongly advocating for open play for pickleball
- Parking at Riverhead for event – email from Timothy Dittrich
 - Requesting review of \$1,250 quote given to park up to 50 cars at Riverhead for an event in August
 - In 2019, cost for same request was \$530
 - Noted the event is not for profit
 - Shelly noted Rec and Park will be losing \$1,200 that day for those spots; \$1,250 fee is justified based on data and numbers
 - Lower to \$1,000?
 - 50 cars at resident rate of \$20 for this year, but tell them that next year the price will be at the non-resident rate
 - All okay with this number
 - Jaime will respond to Timothy with this offer and explanation
- Marblehead Conservancy – email from Don Morgan
 - Requesting approval to use former garden at end of Everett Paine Blvd as tree and shrub nursery
 - Has water source and enough sun
 - Water source is on separate meter; they will need to pay for water
- Shattuck Fund - letter from Jim Nye at National Grand Bank
 - Additional funds now available for projects ready to go pending funding
 - Seaside grandstand and basketball court
 - Pickleball courts – Court 5 at Vets?
 - Discuss more fully at next meeting
 - Due date on letter is 04/19/24 – Matt will get clarification from Jim
- 06/16/24 – 09/01/24 Lisa Nahatis, First Church of Christ, Marblehead
 - Request to hold weekly 8am services on Sundays at Chandler Hovey Park
 - No fee; insurance already submitted
 - Motion to approve, four in favor. Karin voted no. Motion is approved with a vote of 4-1.
- 06/22/24 Rebecca Davis-Allan – wedding ceremony at Crocker Park
 - Motion to approve, all in favor. Approved pending insurance and fee.
- Select Board Letter – to Kate Twomey from Kyle Wiley
 - Already approved by Rec and Park pending Select Board approval
 - No action necessary

Dog Park – Linda

- Met with Charlie Quigley today
- Professional surveyor needs to be brought in to do a lot split
- Linda knows one and will try to call in a favor, though at a previous Rec and Park meeting where Stephen and Linda from the dog park were present, they said they would pay for it
- Must present letter to Ted Moore with surveyor results and right to travel on Lime St included

- If he approves, then will need a lawyer to draft document

Next Meeting – April 29, 2024 @ 7p

Meeting adjourned @ 7:56p

Minutes taken by: Amanda Viecegli