



Medway Town Hall
155 Village Street
Medway, MA 02053
Telephone (508) 533-3275

TOWN OF MEDWAY
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
PARKS COMMISSION

APPROVED 5/26/2021

Town of Medway
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting
April 27, 2021 – 7:00pm
Medway Senior Center
76 Oakland Street

In attendance:

Park Commissioners: Debi Rossi, Chair, John Farrell, Sean Murphy
Absent: Lyle Core

Others: Julie Harrington, Director of Parks and Recreation; Peter Pelletier, Department of Public Works Deputy Director; Rich Coakley, Prashant Rathore, Jaimin Patel

Chairman Rossi called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Public Comment

No comments

Committee Business

Cricket in Medway

Peter updated the committee on the condition of the lower Memorial field after it had rained and still looked wet the following day. Prashant noted it was dry enough for playing purposes. Debi asked if cleats are worn during games. Jaimin and Prashant confirmed only rubber spikes are used on their shoes. Debi expressed concerns regarding the concrete underneath the pitch and not being able to use the field for other purposes in the future. Prashant understands the concerns but insists the field is usable to other leagues.

Since the Parks & Rec will not be able to financially commit, Debi suggested that Prashant be involved with the Master Planning committee discussions to be considered under the bigger plan for the town. Prashant reiterated his initial financial proposal for the cost to build, however Debi noted there is still a cost to the town for maintenance.

Julie brought up parking restrictions and concerns at Lower Memorial. Prashant said parking is not a concern as long as it is within a mile of the field. He anticipates only 15-18 cars at a time.

Sean made a motion to move the Cricket field discussion at Lower Memorial forward. The motion carried unanimously. 3-0

Tree Dedication

Debi provided a brief description of the request that was proposed noting a resident called Julie asking if she could dedicate a planted tree in memory of her son in Choate Park. Her son was a lifelong Medway resident who was very involved within the community and shared special times with his family at Choate Park. When he was severely injured in an accident the town provided much needed help and assistance. This would be a way for her to give back to the town.

Although it is agreed a wonderful idea, the space restrictions and logistics of starting a memorial tree planting process might be too difficult and ability to accommodate everyone who asks. It was discussed to possibly incorporate the memorial into the peace garden. Peter will be charged with continuing the process to find a location for the memorial while Debi speaks with Margaret about options.

Parkland Acquisition

Debi reviewed a grant that involves fixing, acquiring, or renovating a community parkland area. The item will need to be a warrant item that the town will vote on. The high school tennis/pickleball court could be used to apply for the grant. Debi asked if Steph Carlisle would be available to offer help writing/reviewing the grant application however Peter noted she is very busy, and he offered his help. It was agreed they would continue looking into the grant.

Spring Fields

Julie gave a spring field update noting football is finishing soon, wedge season is over and Spring High School is starting. There are no other issues besides the ongoing parking concerns. The committee agreed additional communication needs to go out to the coaches advising their players on where to park.

Julie will start working on the Summer and Fall schedules soon.

Rich does not have concerns with the condition of the baseball fields as there was a nice spring cleanup done.

Debi asked Rich if there was any resolution regarding the unusually high electric bill. He said due to some extra usage one month it put them into a commercial grade billing, however it was in error and will get rectified. She thought the electric car charging stations could be a reason for the higher bill, however Peter confirmed the town has separate meters for those.

Chairman Update

Debi gave a YTD update stating the available budget is \$98K. She does not believe she will need to ask FinCom for additional funds.

Debi also said Joanne Williams has formally resigned from the Parks committee and noted Rick D'innocenzo might be interested in her spot.

Julie inquired about an hourly rate for the use of the baseball field to the Hopkinton Babe Ruth.

Debi moved to approve the baseball field rental rate of \$75/hr for the Hopkinton team to use when available. The motion carried unanimously 3-0

Approval of Minutes

Deb moved to approve the Parks Commission meeting minutes dated March 31, 2021 as amended. Sean seconded and the motion carried unanimously 3-0

Sean moved to approve the Parks Commission meeting minutes dated April 15, 2021 as amended. Debi seconded and the motion carried. 2-0-1

Adjournment

At approximately 8:16p.m. with all in favor, Debi adjourned the Parks Commission meeting.

Respectfully submitted by,

Metaxia Mitropoulos, Recording Secretary