



**Town of Acton
Recreation Commission**

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MINUTES

DATE: FEBRUARY 9, 2011

7:00 PM

ROOM 46, ACTON TOWN HALL

TOWN CLERK, ACTON

ATTENDEES	Recreation Commission members present were Ms. Karen Jarsky, Co-Chair, Ms. Kim Bodnar, Co-Chair, Ms. Betsy Mercier, Commissioner, Ms. Bridget McKeever-Matz, Commissioner, Selectman Pamela Harting-Barrat, Ms. Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director and Ms. Cheryl Getsick, Secretary
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AGENDA TOPICS

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 PM

Citizens Concerns: None to report

CONSENT AGENDA

DISCUSSION	January 2011 minutes
ACTION ITEM	January 2011 minutes were accepted as amended, 4-0

TOPIC: ACTON 275th & CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

DISCUSSION	Ms. Fochtman reports about 600 tickets have been sold for this event. With an anticipated 1,000 available to be sold, this event will be well attended. Food will be served within the cafeteria of the High School and various activities will be occurring within the hallways and classrooms as well. There will be lots of historical information available from the Acton Historical Society. This year, fireworks will be added to the event. Light towers will be set up to ensure safety as well as police details. Due to the accumulated snow, the Lions Club will set up outside the High School rather than Leary Field. Performance will run from 7:00pm through 9:00pm. Twenty-Five Chinese Wish Lanterns were purchased for this event. Given weather conditions, these lanterns will be set off on the field near the tennis court. The fireworks will be set off behind the larger field.
ACTION ITEM	Ms. Fochtman will be in attendance during this event.

TOPIC: GOWARD PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISING

DISCUSSION	Ms. Fochtman reported it appears playground equipment components are either sold for either young or older groups of children. Ms. Fochtman received a quote for a design for mainly 2-5 year olds from Kompan, Gametime developed a playground for ages 5-12 year olds. The Engineering Department will be performing a site survey. Selectman Pamela Harting-Barrat suggested contractors who have developed beautiful homes over the past year may be willing to donate their time and materials to help build this playground.
ACTION ITEM	Ms. Fochtman will continue to obtain quotes from various vendors. Ms. Fochtman will meet with citizen Ms. Jana Cataldo to review quotes received. Ms. Fochtman will inquire as to what the citizens who are performing the fundraising will be looking for within this playground. Ms. Fochtman will look into whether the playground equipment and installation need to be placed out to bid.

TOPIC: OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN

DISCUSSION	Ms. Fochtman is working on performing historical updates. After speaking with Mr. Peter Ashton it was determined more data about what the multiple school complexes currently have on site along with inventory of town playground equipment is needed. Selectman Pamela Harting-Barrat reported the Morrison land was voted with the assumption fields would be developed on this land. Ms. Fochtman reached out to the various leagues. Some reported the current field situation meets their particular needs while other leagues report they would like an increase of fields available due to their growth in participation. Multi-purpose fields are needed. Ms. Fochtman is continuing to obtain feedback regarding field usages. Ms. Fochtman reports the School Street location would be good for a multiple year lease however this is still being tied up with the State. The Recreation Commissioners need to make a determination as to what additional fields are needed in accordance with league input.
ACTION ITEM	Ms. Fochtman will provide updates to the OSRP Sections that pertain to the past five year span of time.

TOPIC: CPC

DISCUSSION	Ms. Mercier reports there has been deliberation about extending the Town of Acton's pending CPA grants. The Picnic Pavilion was awarded in 2008. The Recreation Commissioners are hoping it will be extended. If an extension is not granted, Recreation will have to reapply. Selectman Pamela Harting-Barrat states it is her understanding Recreation could not use the CPC funds as it was for developing a new building. Ms. Fochtman agreed; the picnic pavilion was classified as a Recreation project. It is not being built on land that is purchased with CPC funds; similar to the Elm Street playground. Selectman Pamela Harting-Barrat reported the Selectmen had asked the legislature to
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	move ahead with SB90. Ms. Mercier reports at the last meeting, CPC was waiting to hear back from the Town of Acton's legal counsel. At that time, town counsel gave two options; one was to let it lapse and take it up later in the future; the other was to include an article in the warrant for the next town meeting to extend town funds. CPC did not want to make that decision.
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CONCLUSIONS	Ms. Mercier will inform the Commission of information gathered at the next meeting.
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DISCUSSION	REPORTS: a) Elm Street Update – Nothing to report. b) Morrison Farm Update - There is a blue ribbon committee being formed. c) CPC – Previously discussed. d) School Street - The Lions Club Fair for this year will be at this location. There are some water restrictions which Lions Club must adhere to in order to proceed. e) Open Space and Recreation Plan – Previously discussed f) Peak Software – Ms. Fochtman will continue to follow up for support.
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NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION:

DISCUSSION	Nothing to report
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MEETING ADJOURNED TIME:	8:45 PM
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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>*