



Town of Acton Recreation Commission

MINUTES

ROOM 126, ACTON TOWN HALL

DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2013

ATTENDEES	Recreation Commission members present were Ms. Bridget McKeever-Matz, Chair Ms. Betsy Mercier, Commissioner, Mr. Joe Will, Commissioner, Ms. Katie Green, Selectmen Liaison, Mr. Steve Leo, FOP (Friends of the Playground), Ms. Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director, Ms. Melissa Rier, Natural Resources, Ms. Cheryl Getsick, Secretary
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AGENDA TOPICS

Meeting called to order at: 6:45 PM

Citizens Concerns: A citizen had called and complained regarding the new surfacing of the Elm Street tennis courts. Puddles now appear on the surface. Ms. Fochtman called Vermont Surfacing Company. They stated they had not done anything regarding the slope of the courts but added only 1/4" to the surface. It was recommended to purchase a squeegee tool called "Roll-Dry" to manually remove the water. Ms. Fochtman will contact Mr. Howard Gross about this solution.

CONSENT AGENDA

DISCUSSION	October 1, 2013 minutes
ACTION ITEM	October 1, 2013 minutes were accepted as amended, 3-0

TOPIC: Action Item Review – Dog concerns at Great Hill field

DISCUSSION	Ms. Fochtman ordered signs which will be placed at the field.
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TOPIC: GOWARD PLAYGROUND

DISCUSSION	Town Manager Steve Ledoux and Town Counsel Nina Pickering Cook signed the contract allowing the installation to begin. Central Nurseries has been contacted and the equipment will be picked up this week from the New York warehouse. Ms. Fochtman will contact the nursery to determine the next step within the installation plan. The GeoTex fabric will be installed prior to the wood fiber. Approximate costs for both are \$10,500 and will follow the installation of the equipment. American Surfacing was the lowest bidder. Mr. Leo inquired about Mr. Jay Redmond doing the mulch spreading. The delivery of the mulch is within a week or so usually. Mr. Leo has been working on the sponsor signage. Mr. Lazaro and Ms. Fochtman met to discuss the paving. The recommendation was to wait until the playground equipment has been installed. It would be best to plan the repaving of the playground & basketball court paths for next spring. Mr. Leo asked if the playground's official opening should wait until all is handicap accessible. Ms. Fochtman and Mr. Leo agreed an official opening will occur during the spring when paving and accessibility are complete. Picnic tables have been quoted. Friends of the Playground are interested in composite tables which are similar to those purchased for the NARA picnic pavilion. A handicap accessible table would be considered for the Goward Playground and Ms. Fochtman will obtain pricing. Ms. Fochtman is in the process of obtaining tree quotes from Kennedy Landscaping. Kennedy's has been very generous by selling the trees at a discounted rate. Trees will be planted both at Elm Street and the Miracle Field. A maple tree will also be placed at the Goward Playground. Engraving on plaques for the benches will be left up to the determination of the FOP. Ms. Fochtman will try to locate the distributor of plaques used on the benches at the Acton Memorial Library.
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TOPIC: RECREATION COMMISSION DATES

DISCUSSION	Ms. Getsick will inquire as to the availability of the Commission for dates in 2014.
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REPORTS:

DISCUSSION	<p>a) Miracle Field: Planting of trees is being reviewed.</p> <p>b) Community Preservation Committee: Today was the deadline for the CPC applications.</p> <p>c) School Street: Town Counsel is negotiating a multi-year lease.</p> <p>d) Playground Update: Recreation mulched NARA, Robbins Mill and Gardner playgrounds.</p> <p>e) Open Space & Recreation Plan: The plan is now presented to the State for Review.</p>
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f) NARA Park Pavilion Update: The process of pouring the footings was completed today. Ms. Fochtman has a meeting with the architect Kang Associates and Stallion Builders to determine the coloring of the concrete floor.

g) Recreation Operations: Nothing to report.

h) T.J. O'Grady Skate Park: The Recreation Department will choose a company to create a conceptual design and engineered design of the expanded skate park. Recreation is currently reviewing proposals.

i) NARA Comfort Station: Recreation hired the Office of Michael Rosenfield to create a conceptual design of the station. Recreation received a cost estimate for the design of interest. We are considering the possibility of obtaining sponsorships to defer costs.

j) Morrison Farm: Mr. Will reported the Morrison Farm Committee is seeking CPA funding for the following:

- A historical study of the Robbins homestead
- Improving Ice House Pond Parking
- Handicap accessible boardwalk along Ice House Pond

NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION – NOTHING TO REPORT

MEETING ADJOURNED TIME:

8:25 PM

**Supporting and referenced documentation relating to these minutes are available on the DocuShare site; <https://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-1985>*